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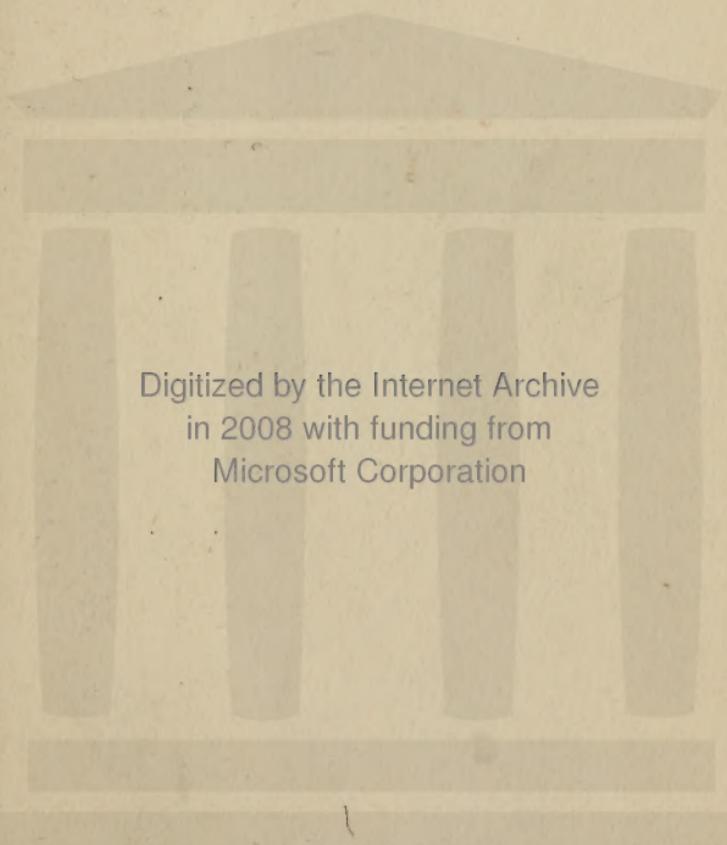
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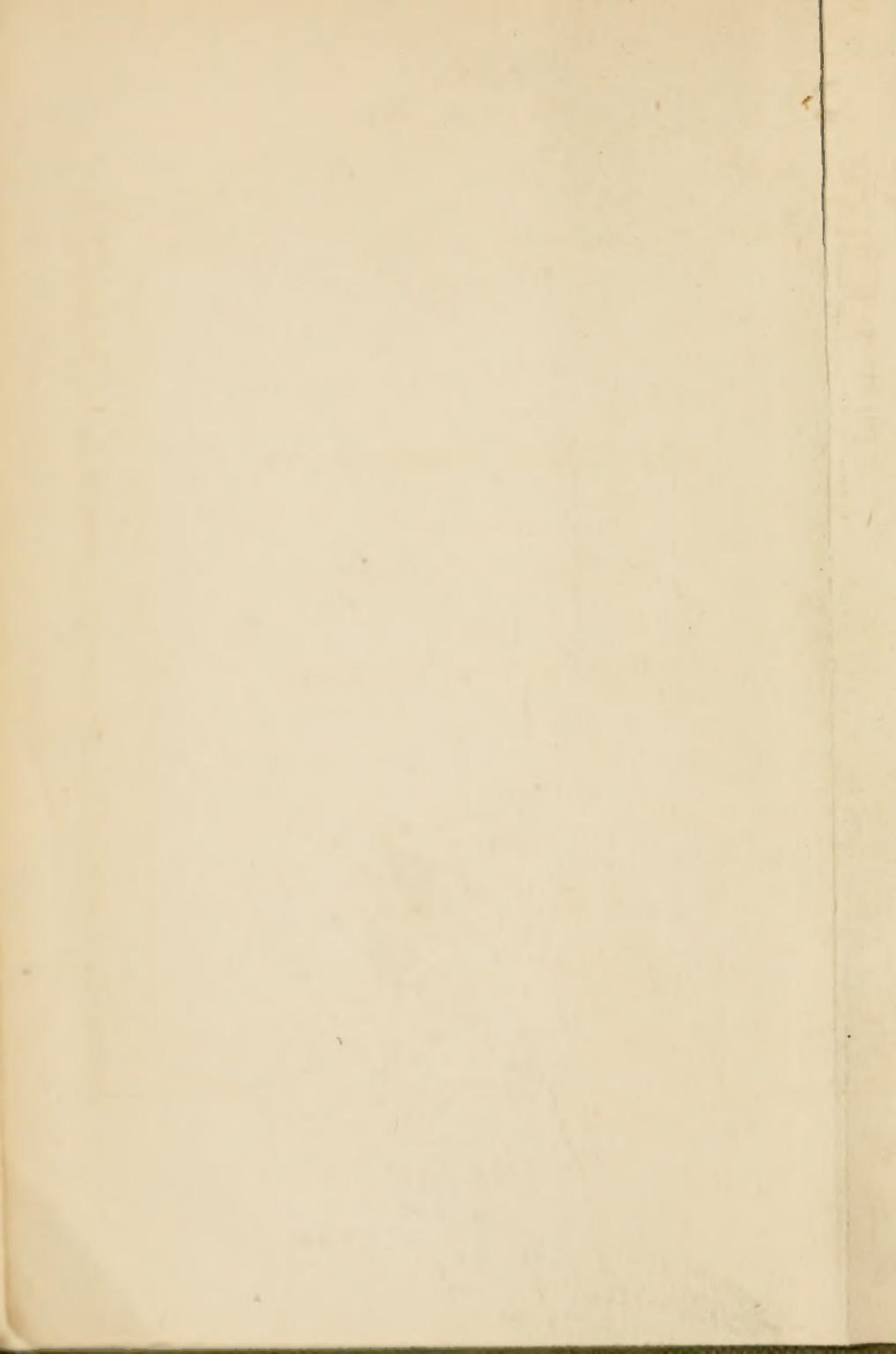
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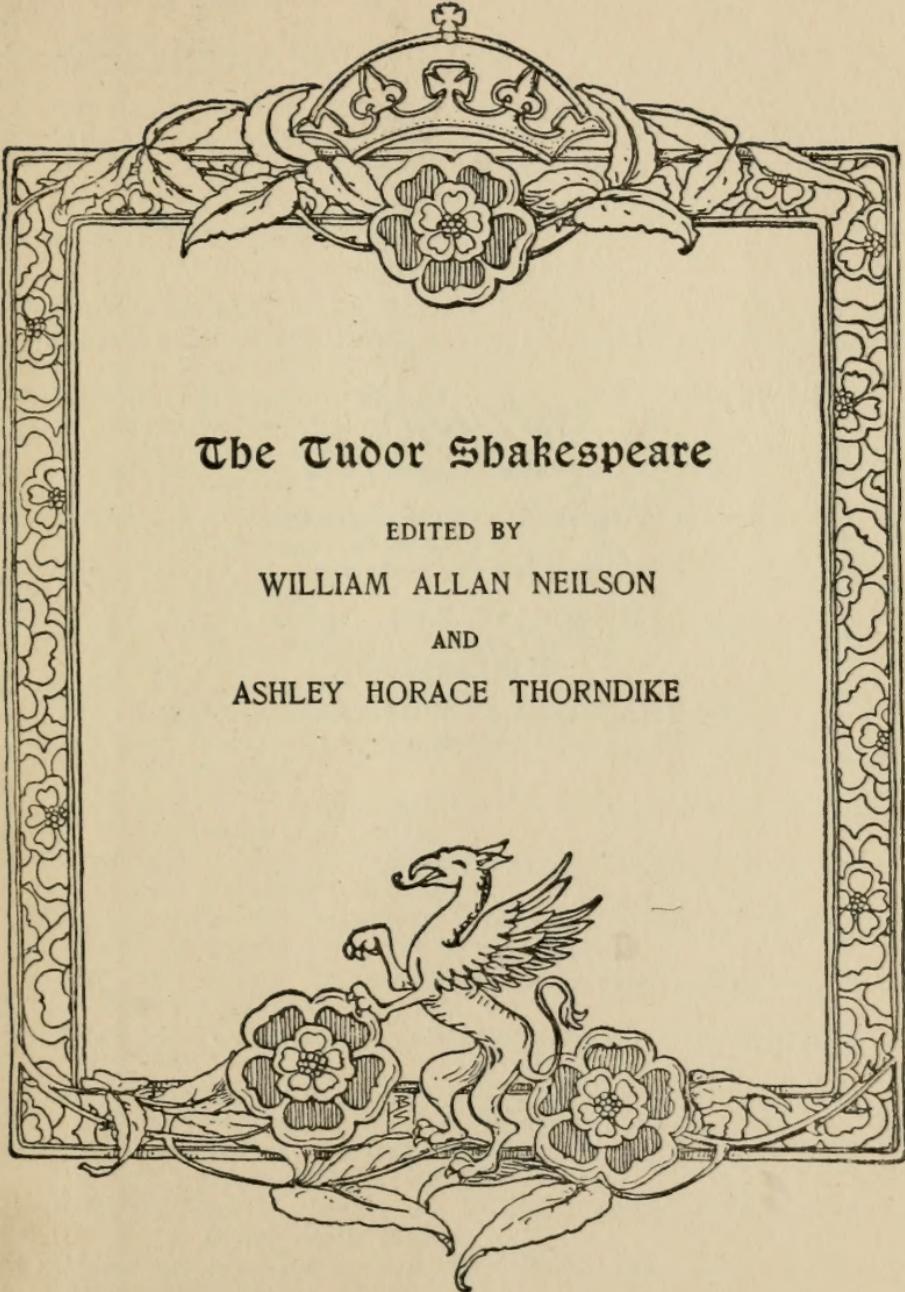
· PERICLES ·





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# The Tudor Shakespeare

EDITED BY

WILLIAM ALLAN NEILSON

AND

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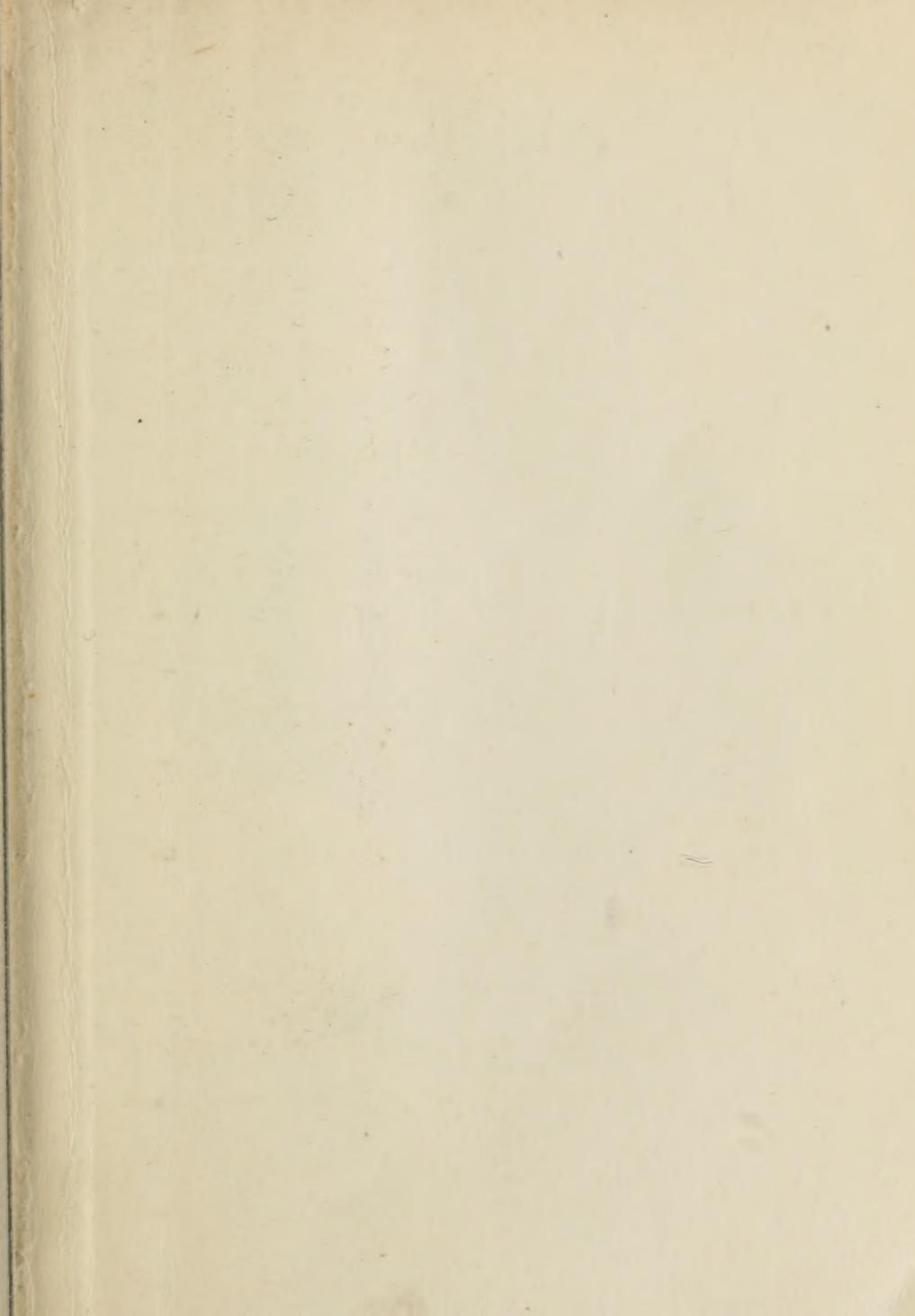
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THE TUDOR

SHAKESPEARE

Pericles  
Prince of Tyre

EDITED BY

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*First edition of this issue of "Pericles, Prince of Tyre,"*  
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## Introduction

*Text.* — *Pericles* was first printed in 1609 with the following title: “The late And much admired Play, called *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*. With the true Relation of the whole Historie, adventures, and fortunes of the said Prince: As also, The no lesse strange and worthy accidents in the Birth and Life, of his Daughter Mariana. As it hath been divers and sundry times acted by his Maiesties Seruants, at the Globe on the Banck-side. By William Shakespeare. Imprinted at London for Henry Gosson, and are to be sold at the signe of the Sunne in Pater-noster row, etc. 1609.” This was the First Quarto (Q<sub>1</sub>). Another quarto edition with very slight changes appeared in the same year; others followed in 1611, 1619, 1630, and 1635. There were thus six quarto editions before the play appeared in the Third Folio (F<sub>3</sub>) of Shakespeare’s works, second impression, in 1664. The best text, though it contains many corruptions, is that of Q<sub>1</sub> which has been the basis for all later editions.

*Date of Composition.* — The first mention of a play called *Pericles* is found in the Stationers’ Register of May 20, 1608. The play was “to be stayed.” This was in all probability the First Quarto of *Pericles* already mentioned. Evidence to this effect is found in a prose version of *Pericles* by George Wilkins which appeared later in 1608 with the title: “*The Painfull adventures of Pericles*

*Prince of Tyre.* Being The true History of the Play of Pericles, as it was lately presented by the worthy and ancient Poet John Gower At London Printed by T. P. for Nat. Butter, 1608.”<sup>1</sup> Wilkins, then, claimed for his novel nothing more than that it was the true history “of the Play of Pericles.” The First Quarto and Wilkins’s prose version are in fact alike not only in names and incidents but often in phraseology. In Act III, Scene I, of the First Quarto, which is the basis of our text, Pericles addresses his infant in these words:

Thou art the rudeliest welcome to this world  
That ever was prince’s child. Happy what follows!  
Thou hast as chiding a nativity  
As fire, air, water, earth, and heaven can make.

In Wilkins’s version this becomes: “Poor inch of nature! . . . thou art as rudely welcome to the world as ever princess’ babe was, and hast as chiding a nativity as fire, air, earth, and water can afford thee.”

No one can read these two passages, to cite no more, without recognizing that Wilkins wrote with the First Quarto before him, or that the author of the First Quarto wrote with Wilkins’s novel before him, or that both wrote with the same original or originals before them. The evidence seems in favor of the first supposition. As *Pericles* had been “lately presented” when Wilkins wrote, the date of composition would seem to be late in 1607 or early in 1608.

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted by Tycho Mommsen, 1857.

*Authorship.* — The consensus of critical opinion at the present time is well summed up by George Lillo in the Prologue to his *Marina* (1738) :

We dare not charge the whole unequal play  
Of *Pericles* on him ; yet let us say,  
As gold tho' mix'd with baser metal shines,  
So do his bright inimitable lines  
Throughout those rude wild scenes distinguish'd stand  
And show he touch'd them with no sparing hand.

The chief arguments against Shakespeare's authorship are the absence of the play from the First and Second Folios, the unevenness of the style, the vulgarity of some of the scenes, and the bungling treatment of the plot. Against these may be placed the contemporary testimony of the First Quarto, to which Shakespeare's name was attached ; the Shakespearean excellence of the style in many passages ; a certain fineness of handling even in the brothel scenes ; the increasing convergence of plot after Act II ; and the emergence at last of the reunion motif which binds together *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest*.

The play seems to have been regarded by all critics as Shakespeare's in whole until 1709, when Rowe, in his edition of that year, remarked : " It is owned that some part of *Pericles* was written by him, particularly the last scene." It was generally excluded by editors after 1709 till the time of Malone, who in 1778 declared that *Pericles* was " the entire work of Shakespeare." Since then it has formed a part of the Shakespeare canon, though Malone

## Introduction

soon afterwards changed his opinion and contended that it was "originally the production of some elder playwright and afterwards improved by our poet whose hand is acknowledged to be visible in many scenes throughout the play." It is worth noting that Tennyson, a lifelong lover of Shakespeare, held very decided views about the authorship of *Pericles*. "When I first saw Mr. Tennyson last winter," said the late F. J. Furnivall in 1874, "after many years' occasional correspondence, he asked me, during our walk, whether I had ever examined *Pericles* with any care. I had to confess that I'd never read it, as some friends whom I considered good judges had told me it was very doubtful whether Shakspere wrote any of it. Mr. Tennyson answered, 'O, that won't do! He wrote all the part relating to the birth and recovery of Marina, and the recovery of Thais. I settled that long ago. Come upstairs and I'll read it to you.'" We do not know in detail what parts were read, but Furnivall adds: "I need not tell you how I enjoyed the reading, or how quick and sincere my conviction of the genuineness of the part read was."<sup>1</sup>

While a few critics still assign the whole play to Shakespeare, the great majority deny him any share in the choruses spoken by Gower or in Acts I and II. They recognize his hand, however, in Act III entire, in scenes i, iii, and iv of Act IV, and in Act V entire. But to my mind there are plain evidences of Shakespeare's work here and there in Acts I and II. As to the much disputed scene vi,

<sup>1</sup> *New Shakspere Society Transactions*, 1874, pp. 252-253. See also *Marina*, edited by S. Wellwood, 1902.

that closes Act IV, my own opinion is precisely the reverse of that expressed by Professor C. H. Herford. "We may perhaps," he says, "recognize Shakespeare in Marina's virginal protest, but its instantaneous effect upon hardened men must be attributed to a hand less subtle or more perfunctory than his." On the contrary, while Shakespeare may not have led Marina into this sordid scene, I have always had an inner conviction that he and he alone led her so triumphantly out. Even if we grant, as I should not, that there is a certain "psychological ineptitude" in the effectiveness of Marina's replies, may we not pardon something to the spirit of chivalry? I can imagine some of Shakespeare's coarser friends joking him about the facile victory won by Marina, but I cannot imagine Shakespeare handling the scene differently or conducting it to any other issue. The philosophy of this scene is the philosophy of Milton's *Comus*. Both are tributes, and, I think, equally sincere tributes, to

The noble grace that dashed brute violence  
With sudden adoration and blank awe.

*Sources.* — It does not seem probable that Shakespeare collaborated with any one in the preparation of *Pericles*, and it is equally improbable that the play is a superstructure built by some unknown dramatist on a *Marina* or *Pericles* of Shakespeare's own. Shakespeare probably touched up an existing *Pericles* and, as the story was widely known, left in a great deal more than he would have left in if he had had a free hand. Delius suggested that the original play which Shakespeare retouched was

## Introduction

written by George Wilkins,<sup>1</sup> who later wrote the novel already mentioned. The argument is based on certain metrical resemblances between *Pericles* as we have it and a play called *The Miseries of Enforced Marriage* which Wilkins wrote in 1603. Till the supposed original play is found, however, nothing final or even definite can be said of its author.

The *Pericles* story is a very old one, going back at least as far as *Apollonius of Tyre*.<sup>2</sup> The latter, which is followed in all essentials by our author, is one of the stories in the famous *Gesta Romanorum* and had been popular in England ever since "the moral Gower" had retold it in the eighth book of his *Confessio Amantis* (1386). It had been again "gathered into English" by Lawrence Twine, whose prose novel, *The Patterne of Painfull Adventures*, appeared in 1576 and was reprinted in 1607. Gower and Twine seem to have contributed most to the play which Shakespeare remade into our *Pericles*.

*Style.* — Dryden called *Pericles* a "ridiculous incoherent story" and contended that

<sup>1</sup> This view is strongly but inconclusively upheld by Harry T. Baker in "The Relation of Shakspere's *Pericles* to George Wilkins's Novel, *The Painfull Adventures of Pericles, Prince of Tyre*" (*Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*, new series, vol. xvi, No. 1, March, 1908.) Cf. also Julius, *Jahrbuch der Deutschen Shakespeare-Gesellschaft*, 1868, pp. 175-204, and R. Boyle, *New Shakspere Society Transactions*, 1882.

<sup>2</sup> See *Shakspere's Pericles and Apollonius of Tyre*, by A. H. Smyth, Philadelphia, 1898; and S. Singer, *Apollonius von Tyros*, Berlin, 1906.

Shakespeare's own muse her *Pericles* first bore;  
The Prince of Tyre was elder than the Moor.  
'Tis miracle to see a first good play;  
All hawthorns do not bloom on Christmas day.

The great critic is plainly wrong in calling this a first play, but as plainly right in thinking it incoherent. It does not hang together. The story was so familiar to Englishmen that Shakespeare did not feel justified in taking such liberties with it as were demanded by the exigencies of a coherent and unified plot. What liberties he did take, however, were in favor of unity and decency. Thus Twine and Wilkins both have Marina driven through the streets of Mytilene to display her charms to the rabble. They both represent Lysimachus as hiding in an adjoining room, after his own rebuff, to see how Marina would treat others. It was bad enough from our modern point of view for Shakespeare to marry Marina to Lysimachus, but the great dramatist did what he could to improve the character of Lysimachus before permitting the union. In Shakespeare's pages Lysimachus, after once meeting Marina, neither doubts her purity nor spies on others. His ideals and his habits seem both to have been touched to finer issues. The marriage takes place, it is true, but the Lysimachus of Shakespeare is not the Lysimachus of Twine and Wilkins.

The style of the play, however, aside from strictly dramatic technique, is distinctly good. It lacks, in its better portions, the conceits and artificialities of Shakespeare's first period as well as the vague if virile turns of expression that mark his third period. Where obscurity can be discovered it is due to unmeaning words and phrases,

which are doubtless corrupt, rather than to faulty sentence-structure or far-fetched figures of speech. The style of the passages that we may with confidence ascribe to Shakespeare is essentially the style of *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest*. There is the same defiance of metrical conventionalities, the same suddenness of transition, the same steep contrasts of character and fortune, the same deliberate unrealities of time and place, the same fondness for restoring dead people to life, the same testing and triumphing of woman's purity and affection, and, at the close, the same joy in reunion and reconciliation. These passages have also, as Verplanck has pointed out, Shakespeare's "emphatic mode of employing the plainest and most homely words in the highest and most poetical sense, — his original compounds, his crowded magnificence of gorgeous imagery, interspersed with the simplest touches of living nature."

Though Marina, Imogen, Perdita, and Miranda, the heroines of the four romances, are firmly differentiated, they leave the impression of being drawn by the same hand and at very nearly the same time. The character of each is shown by flashes rather than by steady illuminations; it is revealed rather than determined by the strange adversities that are placed about it. Indeed the strongest evidence that Marina is a child of Shakespeare is to be sought in her resemblance in essential character and romantic rearing to Imogen, Perdita, and Miranda, whose paternity is beyond dispute.

*Stage History.* — Whatever may be said of the defective technique or the repulsive nature of parts of *Pericles*, the

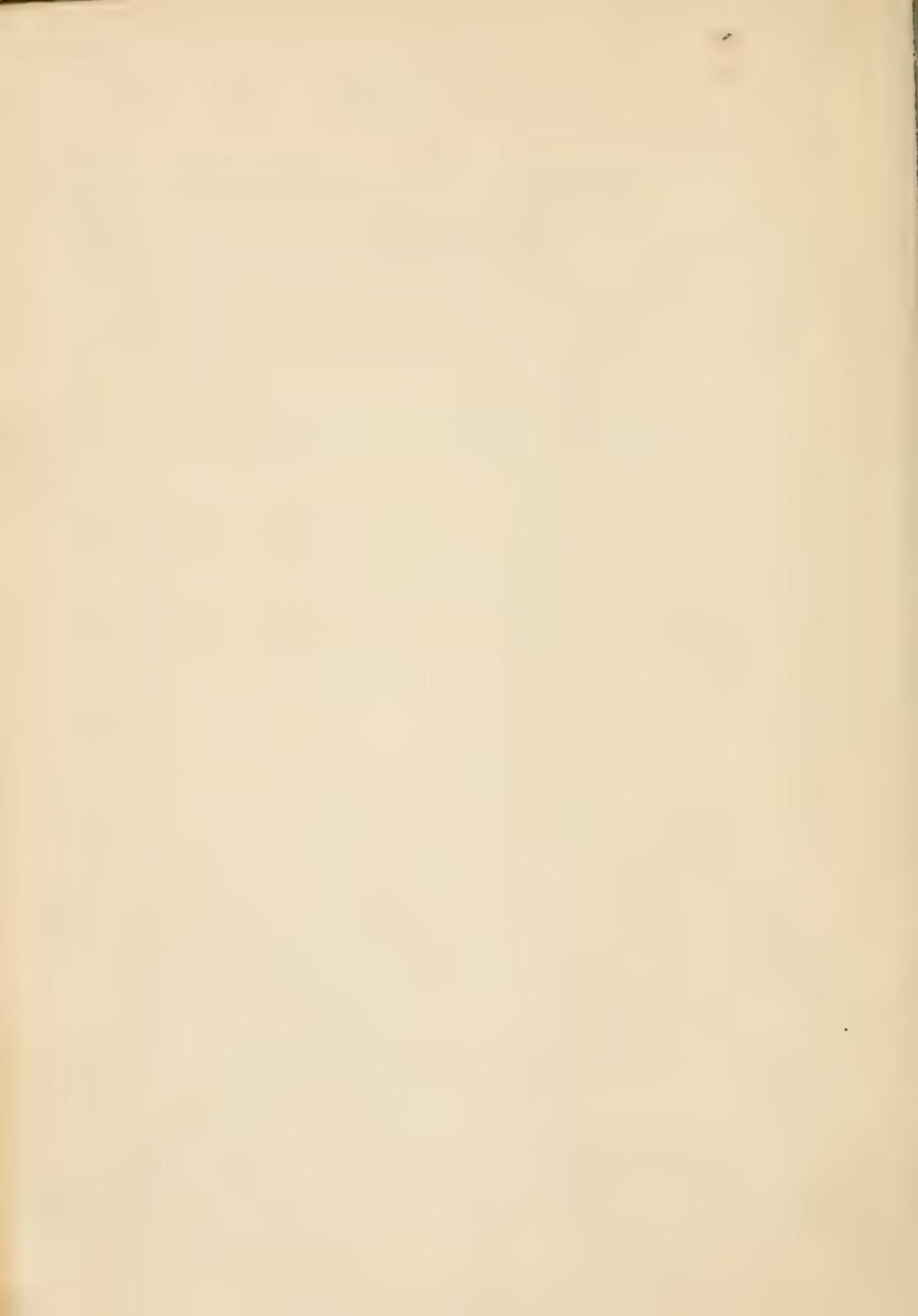
popularity of the play for at least fifty years after its first appearance is abundantly attested. In 1609 an anonymous writer (in *Pimlico, or Runne Red-Cap*) compared an eager crowd to an audience come to see *Pericles*. The name *Pericles* became a synonym for a successful play. Thus Robert Taylor (in his Prologue to *The Hogge hath lost his Pearle*, 1614) says:

And if it prove so happy as to please,  
We'll say 'tis fortunate like *Pericles*.

Five years later *Pericles* was played at court, being performed "before the Marquis Tremouille and other French Lords at Whitehall in the King's great chamber." In 1631 it was presented by the King's company at the Globe Theatre and about thirty years later at the Cock Pit in Drury Lane. In 1646 Samuel Sheppard (in *The Times displayed in six Sestyads*) said:

With Sophocles we may  
Compare great Shakespeare: Aristophanes  
Never like him his Fancy could display,  
Witness the Prince of Tyre, his *Pericles*.

After the Restoration it seems to have declined in popularity, though George Lillo, in 1738, presented a successful adaptation of the last two acts at Covent Garden. In 1854 it was acted, probably for the last time, at the Sadler's Wells Theatre in London. The critic of the London *Times* wrote of the actress who took the part of Marina: "She sustained the part in an artistic manner . . . though the part has lost much of its significance by the necessary omission of the bestiality of the fourth act."



# Pericles, Prince of Tyre

## [DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

ANTIOCHUS, king of Antioch.

PERICLES, prince of Tyre.

HELIANTUS, } two lords of Tyre.  
ESCANES,

SIMONIDES, king of Pentapolis.

CLEON, governor of Tarsus.

LYSIMACHUS, governor of Mytilene.

CERIMON, a lord of Ephesus.

THALLARD, a lord of Antioch.

PHILEMON, servant to Cerimon.

LEONINE, servant to Dionyza.

Marshal.

A Pandar.

ROGER, his servant.

The Daughter of Antiochus.

DIONYZA, wife to Cleon.

THAISA, daughter to Simonides.

MARINA, daughter to Pericles and Thaisa.

LYCHORIDA, nurse to Marina.

A Bawd.

Diana.

COWER, as Chorus.

Lords, Knights, Gentlemen, Sailors, Pirates, Fishermen, and  
Messengers.

SCENE : *Dispersedly in various countries.*]

# Pericles, Prince of Tyre



## ACT FIRST

*Enter Gower.*

*[Before the palace of Antioch. Heads and skulls of men over the gate.]*

*Gow.* To sing a song that old was sung,  
From ashes ancient Gower is come,  
Assuming man's infirmities,  
To glad your ear, and please your eyes.  
It hath been sung at festivals,  
On ember-eves and holidays ;  
And lords and ladies in their lives  
Have read it for restoratives.  
The purchase is to make men glorious ;  
*Et bonum quo antiquius, eo melius.*  
If you, born in these latter times,  
When wit's more ripe, accept my rhymes,  
And that to hear an old man sing  
May to your wishes pleasure bring,

5

10

I life would wish, and that I might  
Waste it for you, like taper-light.

15

This Antioch, then, Antiochus the Great  
Built up, this city, for his chiefest seat ;  
The fairest in all Syria,

I tell you what mine authors say.

20

This king unto him took a fere,  
Who died and left a female heir,  
So buxom, blithe, and full of face,  
As heaven had lent her all his grace ;  
With whom the father liking took,  
And her to incest did provoke, —  
Bad child ; worse father ! to entice his own  
To evil should be done by none.  
But custom what they did begin  
Was with long use account'd no sin.

25

30

The beauty of this sinful dame  
Made many princes thither frame  
To seek her as a bed-fellow,  
In marriage-pleasures play-fellow ;  
Which to prevent he made a law  
To keep her still and men in awe,  
That whoso ask'd her for his wife,  
His riddle told not, lost his life ;  
So for her many a wight did die,  
As yon grim looks do testify.

35

40

What now ensues, to the judgement of your eye  
I give, my cause who best can justify. *Exit.*

## SCENE I

[Antioch. A room in the palace.]

Enter Antiochus, Prince Pericles, and followers.

Ant. Young Prince of Tyre, you have at large received

The danger of the task you undertake.

Per. I have, Antiochus, and, with a soul  
Embold'ned with the glory of her praise,  
Think death no hazard in this enterprise.

5

Ant. Bring in our daughter, clothed like a bride

Music.

For embracements even of Jove himself ;  
At whose conception, till Lucina reign'd,  
Nature this dowry gave to glad her presence,  
The senate-house of planets all did sit,  
To knit in her their best perfections.

10

Enter the Daughter of Antiochus.

Per. See where she comes, apparelled like the spring,  
Graces her subjects, and her thoughts the king  
Of every virtue gives renown to men !

Her face the book of praises, where is read  
Nothing but curious pleasures, as from thence  
Sorrow were ever raz'd, and testy wrath  
Could never be her mild companion.  
You gods that made me man, and sway in love,

15

That have inflam'd desire in my breast  
 To taste the fruit of yon celestial tree  
 Or die in the adventure, be my helps,  
 As I am son and servant to your will,  
 To compass such a boundless happiness !

*Ant.* Prince Pericles, —

20

*Per.* That would be son to great Antiochus.

*Ant.* Before thee stands this fair Hesperides,

With golden fruit, but dangerous to be touch'd,  
 For death-like dragons here affright thee hard.

Her face, like heaven, enticeth thee to view 30

Her countless glory, which desert must gain,

And which, without desert, because thine eye  
 Presumes to reach, all the whole heap must die.

Yon sometimes famous princes, like thyself,

Drawn by report, adventurous by desire, 35

Tell thee, with speechless tongues and semblance  
 pale,

That without covering, save yon field of stars,

Here they stand martyrs, slain in Cupid's wars ;

And with dead cheeks advise thee to desist

For going on death's net, whom none resist. 40

*Per.* Antiochus, I thank thee, who hath taught

My frail mortality to know itself,

And by those fearful objects to prepare

This body, like to them, to what I must ;

For death rememb'red should be like a mirror, 45

Who tells us life's but breath, to trust it error.

I'll make my will then, and, as sick men do  
 Who know the world, see heaven, but, feeling woe,  
 Gripe not at earthly joys as erst they did ;  
 So I bequeath a happy peace to you 50  
 And all good men, as every prince should do ;  
 My riches to the earth from whence they came ;  
 But my unspotted fire of love to you.

[*To the Princess.*]

Thus ready for the way of life or death,  
 I wait the sharpest blow, Antiochus. 55

[*Ant.*] Scorning advice, read the conclusion, then,  
 Which read and not expounded, 'tis decreed,  
 As these before thee, thou thyself shalt bleed.

*Daugh.* Of all 'say'd yet, mayst thou prove prosperous !  
 Of all 'say'd yet I wish thee happiness ! 60

*Per.* Like a bold champion, I assume the lists,  
 Nor ask advice of any other thought  
 But faithfulness and courage.

### THE RIDDLE

I am no viper, yet I feed  
 On mother's flesh which did me breed. 65  
 I sought a husband, in which labour  
 I found that kindness in a father.  
 He's father, son, and husband mild ;  
 I mother, wife, and yet his child.  
 How they may be, and yet in two, 70  
 As you will live, resolve it you.

Sharp physic is the last ; but, O you powers  
 That gives heaven countless eyes to view men's  
 acts,

Why cloud they not their sights perpetually,  
 If this be true, which makes me pale to read it ? 75  
 Fair glass of light, I lov'd you, and could still,  
 Were not this glorious casket stor'd with ill.  
 But I must tell you, now my thoughts revolt  
 For he's no man on whom perfections wait  
 That, knowing sin within, will touch the gate. 80  
 You are a fair viol, and your sense the strings ;  
 Who, finger'd to make man his lawful music,  
 Would draw heaven down, and all the gods, to  
 hearken ;

But being play'd upon before your time,  
 Hell only danceth at so harsh a chime. 85  
 Good sooth, I care not for you.

*Ant.* Prince Pericles, touch not, upon thy life,  
 For that's an article within our law,  
 As dangerous as the rest. Your time's expir'd.  
 Either expound now, or receive your sentence. 90

*Per.* Great king,  
 Few love to hear the sins they love to act ;  
 'Twould braid yourself too near for me to tell it.  
 Who has a book of all that monarchs do,  
 He's more secure to keep it shut than shown ; 95  
 For vice repeated is like the wandering wind,  
 Blows dust in others' eyes, to spread itself ;

And yet the end of all is bought thus dear,  
The breath is gone, and the sore eyes see clear  
To stop the air would hurt them. The blind mole  
casts

100

Copp'd hills towards heaven, to tell the earth is  
throng'd  
By man's oppression ; and the poor worm doth  
die for't.

Kings are earth's gods ; in vice their law's their  
will ;

And if Jove stray, who dare say Jove doth ill ?

It is enough you know ; and it is fit,

105

What being more known grows worse, to smother  
it.

All love the womb that their first being bred,  
Then give my tongue like leave to love my head.

*Ant.* [Aside.] Heaven, that I had thy head ! He  
has found the meaning.

But I will gloze with him. — Young Prince of  
Tyre,

110

Though by the tenour of our strict edict,  
Your exposition misinterpreting,  
We might proceed to cancel off your days ;  
Yet hope, succeeding from so fair a tree  
As your fair self, doth tune us otherwise.  
Forty days longer we do respite you ;  
If by which time our secret be undone,  
This mercy shows we'll joy in such a son ;

115

And until then your entertain shall be  
As doth befit our honour and your worth. 120

*Exeunt all but Pericles.*

*Per.* How courtesy would seem to cover sin,  
When what is done is like an hypocrite,  
The which is good in nothing but in sight !  
If it be true that I interpret false,

Then were it certain you were not so bad 125  
As with foul incest to abuse your soul ;

Where now you're both a father and a son,  
By your untimely claspings with your child,  
Which pleasures fits a husband, not a father ;  
And she an eater of her mother's flesh, 130  
By the defiling of her parent's bed ;  
And both like serpents are, who though they  
feed

On sweetest flowers, yet they poison breed.  
Antioch, farewell ! for wisdom sees those men  
Blush not in actions blacker than the night 135  
Will shun no course to keep them from the  
light.

One sin, I know, another doth provoke ;  
Murder's as near to lust as flame to smoke ;  
Poison and treason are the hands of sin,  
Ay, and the targets to put off the shame ; 140  
Then, lest my life be cropp'd to keep you clear,  
By flight I'll shun the danger which I fear.

*Exit,*

*Re-enter Antiochus.*

*Ant.* He hath found the meaning,  
For which we mean to have his head.  
He must not live to trumpet forth my infamy,  
Nor tell the world Antiochus doth sin 146  
In such a loathed manner ;  
And therefore instantly this prince must die,  
>For by his fall my honour must keep high.  
Who attends us there ?

*Enter Thaliard.*

*Thal.* Doth your Highness call ?  
*Ant.* Thaliard, 151  
You are of our chamber, and our mind partakes  
Her private actions to your secrecy ;  
And for your faithfulness we will advance you.  
Thaliard, behold, here's poison, and here's gold ;  
We hate the Prince of Tyre, and thou must kill  
him. 156

It fits thee not to ask the reason why,  
Because we bid it. Say, is it done ?

*Thal.* My lord,  
'Tis done.

*Ant.* Enough. 160

*Enter a Messenger.*

Let your breath cool yourself, telling your haste.

*Mes.* My lord, Prince Pericles is fled. [Exit.]

*Ant.*

As thou

Wilt live, fly after ; and like an arrow shot  
 From a well-experienc'd archer hits the mark  
 His eye doth level at, so thou ne'er return  
 Unless thou say Prince Pericles is dead.

165

*Thal.* My lord,

If I can get him within my pistol's length,  
 I'll make him sure enough ; so farewell to your  
 Highness.

*Ant.* Thaliard, adieu ! [Exit *Thal.*] Till Pericles be  
 dead,

170

My heart can lend no succour to my head.

[Exit.]

## SCENE II

[Tyre. A room in the palace.]

Enter Pericles.

*Per.* [To *Lords without.*] Let none disturb us. — Why  
 should this change of thoughts,  
 The sad companion, dull-ey'd Melancholy,  
 Be my so us'd a guest as not an hour  
 In the day's glorious walk or peaceful night,  
 The tomb where grief should sleep, can breed me  
 quiet ?

5

Here pleasures court mine eyes, and mine eyes  
 shun them ;  
 And danger, which I fear'd, is at Antioch,

Whose arm seems far too short to hit me here.  
Yet neither pleasure's art can joy my spirits,  
Nor yet the other's distance comfort me. 10  
Then it is thus : the passions of the mind,  
That have their first conception by mis-dread,  
Have after-nourishment and life by care ;  
And what was first but fear what might be  
done,  
Grows elder now and cares it be not done. 15  
And so with me. The great Antiochus,  
'Gainst whom I am too little to contend,  
Since he's so great can make his will his act,  
Will think me speaking, though I swear to silence ;  
Nor boots it me to say I honour him, 20  
If he suspect I may dishonour him ;  
And what may make him blush in being known,  
He'll stop the course by which it might be known.  
With hostile forces he'll o'erspread the land,  
And with the ostent of war will look so huge, 25  
Amazement shall drive courage from the state ;  
Our men be vanquish'd ere they do resist,  
And subjects punish'd that ne'er thought offence :  
Which care of them, not pity of myself —  
Who am no more but as the tops of trees, 30  
Which fence the roots they grow by and defend  
them —  
Makes both my body pine and soul to languish,  
And punish that before that he would punish.

*Enter [Helicanus, with other] Lords.*

1. *Lord.* Joy and all comfort in your sacred breast !

2. *Lord.* And keep your mind, till you return to us,  
Peaceful and comfortable !

36

*Hel.* Peace, peace, and give experience tongue.

They do abuse the King that flatter him,  
For flattery is the bellows blows up sin,  
The thing the which is flattered, but a spark, 40  
To which that blast gives heat and stronger  
glowing ;

Whereas reproof, obedient and in order,  
Fits kings, as they are men, for they may err.

When Signior Sooth here does proclaim a peace,  
He flatters you, makes war upon your life. 45  
Prince, pardon me, or strike me, if you please ;  
I cannot be much lower than my knees.

*Per.* All leave us else ; but let your cares o'erlook  
What shipping and what lading's in our haven,  
And then return to us. [Exeunt *Lords.*] Helicanus, thou

50

Hast mov'd us. What seest thou in our looks ?

*Hel.* An angry brow, dread lord.

*Per.* If there be such a dart in princes' frowns,  
How durst thy tongue move anger to our face ?

*Hel.* How dares the plants look up to heaven, from  
whence

55

They have their nourishment ?

*Hel.* [Kneeling.] I have ground the axe myself;  
Do you but strike the blow.

Per. Rise, prithee, rise.

Sit down. Thou art no flatterer. 60

I thank thee for it ; and heaven forbid

That kings should let their ears hear their faults  
hid !

Fit counsellor and servant for a prince,  
Who by thy wisdom makes a prince thy servant,  
What wouldest thou have me do ?

*Hel.* To bear with patience  
Such griefs as you yourself do lay upon yourself. 66

*Per.* Thou speak'st like a physician, Helicanus,

That ministers a potion unto me

That thou wouldst tremble to receive thyself.

Attend me, then. I went to Antioch, 70

Where, as thou know'st, against the face of death,

I sought the purchase of a glorious beauty,  
From whence an issue I might propagate,

Are arms to princes and bring joys to subjects.

Her face was to mine eye beyond all wonder ; 75

The rest — hark in thine ear — as black as incest ;  
Which by my knowledge found, the sinful father

Seem'd not to strike, but smooth. But thou  
know'st this.

"Tis time to fear when tyrants seem to kiss.  
Which fear so grew in me, I hither fled, 80  
Under the covering of a careful night,  
Who seem'd my good protector ; and, being here,  
Bethought me what was past, what might succeed.  
I knew him tyrannous, and tyrants' fears  
Decrease not, but grow faster than the years ; 85  
And should he doubt it, as no doubt he doth,  
That I should open to the listening air  
How many worthy princes' bloods were shed  
To keep his bed of blackness unlaid ope,  
To lop that doubt, he'll fill this land with arms, 90  
And make pretence of wrong that I have done  
him ;  
When all for mine (if I may call) offence  
Must feel war's blow, who spares not innocence :  
Which love to all, of which thyself art one,  
Who now reprov'dst me for it, —

*Hel.* Alas, sir ! 95  
*Per.* Drew sleep out of mine eyes, blood from my  
cheeks,  
Musings into my mind, with thousand doubts  
How I might stop this tempest ere it came ;  
And finding little comfort to relieve them,  
I thought it princely charity to grieve them. 100  
*Hel.* Well, my lord, since you have given me leave to  
speak,  
Freely will I speak. Antiochus you fear ;

And justly too, I think, you fear the tyrant,  
Who either by public war or private treason  
Will take away your life.

105

Therefore, my lord, go travel for a while,  
Till that his rage and anger be forgot,  
Or till the Destinies do cut his thread of life.  
Your rule direct to any ; if to me,  
Day serves not light more faithful than I'll  
be.

110

*Per.* I do not doubt thy faith ;

But should he wrong my liberties in my absence ?

*Hel.* We'll mingle our bloods together in the earth,  
From whence we had our being and our birth.

*Per.* Tyre, I now look from thee then, and to  
Tarsus

Intend my travel, where I'll hear from thee ; 116  
And by whose letters I'll dispose myself.  
The care I had and have of subjects' good  
On thee I lay, whose wisdom's strength can bear  
it.

119

I'll take thy word for faith, not ask thine oath ;  
Who shuns not to break one will sure crack  
both ;

But in our orbs we'll live so round and safe,  
That time of both this truth shall ne'er con-  
vince,

Thou show'dst a subject's shine, I a true prince.

*Exeunt.*

## SCENE III

[*Tyre. An ante-chamber in the palace.*]

*Enter Thaliard.*

*Thal.* So, this is Tyre, and this the court. Here must I kill King Pericles; and if I do it not, I am sure to be hang'd at home. 'Tis dangerous. Well, I perceive he was a wise fellow, and had good discretion, that, being bid to ask what he would of the King, desired he might know none of his secrets. Now do I see he had some reason for't; for if a king bid a man be a villain, he's bound by the indenture of his oath to be one. Hush! here comes the lords of Tyre. 10

5

*Enter Helicanus and Escanes, with other Lords.*

*Hel.* You shall not need, my fellow peers of Tyre, Further to question me of your king's departure.

His seal'd commission, left in trust with me, Doth speak sufficiently he's gone to travel.

*Thal. [Aside.]* How! the King gone!

15

*Hel.* If further yet you will be satisfied, Why, as it were unlicens'd of your loves, He would depart, I'll give some light unto you. Being at Antioch—

*Thal.*

[Aside.] What from Antioch?

*Hel.* Royal Antiochus — on what cause I know not —  
Took some displeasure at him ; at least he judg'd  
so ;

21

*Thal.* And doubting lest that he had err'd or sinn'd,  
To show his sorrow, he'd correct himself ;  
So puts himself unto the shipman's toil,  
With whom each minute threatens life or death.*Thal.* [Aside.] Well, I perceive  
I shall not be hang'd now, although I would.  
But since he's gone, the King's ears it must  
please ;  
He scap'd the land, to perish at the sea.  
I'll present myself. Peace to the lords of Tyre !*Hel.* Lord Thaliard from Antiochus is welcome.

31

*Thal.* From him I comeWith message unto princely Pericles ;  
But since my landing I have understood  
Your lord has betook himself to unknown  
travels,  
My message must return from whence it came.

36

*Hel.* We have no reason to desire it,  
Commended to our master, not to us ;  
Yet, ere you shall depart, this we desire,  
As friends to Antioch, we may feast in Tyre.

40

*Exeunt.*

## SCENE IV

[*Tarsus. A room in the Governor's house.*]

*Enter Cleon, the Governor of Tarsus, with [Dionyza,]  
his wife, and others.*

*Cle.* My Dionyza, shall we rest us here,  
And by relating tales of others' griefs,  
See if 'twill teach us to forget our own ?

*Dio.* That were to blow at fire in hope to quench it ;  
For who digs hills because they do aspire                   5  
Throws down one mountain to cast up a higher.  
O my distressed lord, even such our griefs are.  
Here they're but felt, and seen with mischief's  
eyes,

But like to groves, being topp'd, they higher rise.

*Cle.* O Dionyza,   10  
Who wanteth food, and will not say he wants it,  
Or can conceal his hunger till he famish ?  
Our tongues and sorrows do sound deep  
Our woes into the air ; our eyes do weep,  
Till tongues fetch breath that may proclaim them  
louder ;   15

That, if heaven slumber while their creatures want,  
They may awake their helps to comfort them.  
I'll then discourse our woes, felt several years,  
And, wanting breath to speak, help me with tears.

*Dio.* I'll do my best, sir.                                   20

*Cle.* This Tarsus, o'er which I have the government,  
A city on whom Plenty held full hand,  
For Riches strew'd herself even in the streets ;  
Whose towers bore heads so high they kiss'd the  
clouds,  
And strangers ne'er beheld but wond'red at ; 25  
Whose men and dames so jetted and adorn'd,  
Like one another's glass to trim them by.  
Their tables were stor'd full, to glad the sight,  
And not so much to feed on as delight.  
All poverty was scorn'd, and pride so great, 30  
The name of help grew odious to repeat.

*Dio.* O, 'tis too true.

*Cle.* But see what heaven can do ! By this our change,  
These mouths, who but of late, earth, sea, and air  
Were all too little to content and please, 35  
Although they gave their creatures in abundance,  
As houses are defil'd for want of use,  
They are now starv'd for want of exercise.  
Those palates who, not yet two summers younger,  
Must have inventions to delight the taste, 40  
Would now be glad of bread, and beg for it.  
Those mothers who, to nuzzle up their babes,  
Thought nought too curious, are ready now  
To eat those little darlings whom they lov'd.  
So sharp are hunger's teeth, that man and wife 45  
Draw lots who first shall die to lengthen life.  
Here stands a lord, and there a lady weeping.

Here many sink, yet those which see them fall  
 Have scarce strength left to give them burial.  
 Is not this true ?

50

*Dio.* Our cheeks and hollow eyes do witness it.

*Cle.* O, let those cities that of Plenty's cup  
 And her prosperities so largely taste,  
 With their superfluous riots, hear these tears !  
 The misery of Tarsus may be theirs.

55

*Enter a Lord.*

*Lord.* Where's the Lord Governor ?

*Cle.* Here.

Speak out thy sorrows which thou bring'st in haste,  
 For comfort is too far for us to expect.

*Lord.* We have desiered, upon our neighbouring shore,  
 A portly sail of ships make hitherward.

61

*Cle.* I thought as much.

One sorrow never comes but brings an heir,  
 That may succeed as his inheritor ;  
 And so in ours. Some neighbouring nation,  
 Taking advantage of our misery,  
 Hath stuff'd these hollow vessels with their power,  
 To beat us down, the which are down already ;  
 And make a conquest of unhappy me,  
 Whereas no glory's got to overcome.

65

70

*Lord.* That's the least fear ; for, by the semblance  
 Of their white flags display'd, they bring us peace,  
 And come to us as favourers, not as foes.

*Cle.* Thou speak'st like him's untutor'd to repeat, 74  
"Who makes the fairest show means most deceit."  
But bring they what they will and what they can,  
What need we fear?

The ground's the lowest, and we are half way  
there.

Go tell their general we attend him here,  
To know for what he comes, and whence he comes,  
And what he craves. 81

*Lord.* I go, my lord.

[*Exit.*]

*Cle.* Welcome is peace, if he on peace consist;  
If wars, we are unable to resist.

*Enter Pericles with Attendants.*

*Per.* Lord Governor, for so we hear you are, 85  
Let not our ships and number of our men  
Be like a beacon fir'd to amaze your eyes.  
We have heard your miseries as far as Tyre,  
And seen the desolation of your streets,  
Nor come we to add sorrow to your tears, 90  
But to relieve them of their heavy load;  
And these our ships, you happily may think  
Are like the Troyan horse was stuff'd within  
With bloody veins, expecting overthrow,  
Are stor'd with corn to make your needy bread, 95  
And give them life whom hunger starv'd half dead.

*All.* The gods of Greece protect you!  
And we'll pray for you.

*Per.*

Arise, I pray you, rise.

We do not look for reverence, but for love,  
 And harbourage for ourself, our ships, and men.

*Cle.* The which when any shall not gratify, 101  
 Or pay you with unthankfulness in thought,  
 Be it our wives, our children, or ourselves,  
 The curse of heaven and men succeed their evils !  
 Till when, — the which I hope shall ne'er be  
 seen, — 105

Your Grace is welcome to our town and us.

*Per.* Which welcome we'll accept ; feast here a while,  
 Until our stars that frown lend us a smile.

*Exeunt.*



## ACT SECOND

*Enter Gower.*

*Gow.* Here have you seen a mighty king  
His child, I wis, to incest bring ;  
A better prince and benign lord,  
That will prove awful both in deed and word.  
Be quiet then as men should be, 5  
Till he hath pass'd necessity.  
I'll show you those in troubles reign,  
Losing a mite, a mountain gain.  
The good in conversation,  
To whom I give my benison, 10  
Is still at Tarsus, where each man  
Thinks all is writ he speken can ;  
And, to remember what he does,  
Build his statue to make him glorious.  
But tidings to the contrary 15  
Are brought your eyes ; what need speak I ?

## DUMB SHOW

*Enter at one door Pericles talking with Cleon ; all the train with them. Enter at another door a Gentleman, with a letter to Pericles ; Pericles shows the letter to Cleon ; gives the Messenger a reward, and knights him. Exit Pericles at one door, and Cleon at another.*

Good Helicane, that stay'd at home,  
Not to eat honey like a drone  
From others' labours ; for though he strive  
To killen bad, keep good alive, 20  
And to fulfil his prince' desire,  
Sends word of all that haps in Tyre :  
How Thaliard came full bent with sin  
And had intent to murder him ;  
And that in Tarsus was not best 25  
Longer for him to make his rest.  
He, doing so, put forth to seas,  
Where when men been, there's seldom ease.  
For now the wind begins to blow ;  
Thunder above and deeps below 30  
Makes such unquiet, that the ship  
Should house him safe is wreck'd and split ;  
And he, good prince, having all lost,  
By waves from coast to coast is tost.  
All perishen of man, of pelf, 35  
Ne aught escapen but himself ;  
Till Fortune, tir'd with doing bad,  
Threw him ashore, to give him glad :  
And here he comes. What shall be next,  
Pardon old Gower, — this longs the text. 40

[Exit.]

## SCENE I

[*Pentapolis. An open place by the sea-side.*]

*Enter Pericles, wet.*

*Per.* Yet cease your ire, you angry stars of heaven !  
Wind, rain, and thunder, remember earthly man  
Is but a substance that must yield to you ;  
And I, as fits my nature, do obey you.  
Alas, the seas hath cast me on the rocks,        5  
Wash'd me from shore to shore, and left me  
breath  
Nothing to think on but ensuing death.  
Let it suffice the greatness of your powers  
To have bereft a prince of all his fortunes ;  
And having thrown him from your watery grave,  
Here to have death in peace is all he'll crave.    11

*Enter three Fishermen.*

1. *Fish.* What, ho, Pilch !
2. *Fish.* Ha, come and bring away the nets !
1. *Fish.* What, Patch-breech, I say !
3. *Fish.* What say you, master ?        15
1. *Fish.* Look how thou stirr'st now ! Come  
away, or I'll fetch thee with a wanion.
3. *Fish.* Faith, master, I am thinking of the poor  
men that were cast away before us even  
now.        20

1. *Fish.* Alas, poor souls, it grieved my heart to hear what pitiful cries they made to us to help them, when, well-a-day, we could scarce help ourselves.

3. *Fish.* Nay, master, said not I as much when I saw the porpoise how he bounc'd and tumbled? They say they're half fish, half flesh. A plague on them, they ne'er come but I look to be wash'd. Master, I marvel how the fishes live in the sea. 25

1. *Fish.* Why, as men do a-land; the great ones eat up the little ones. I can compare our rich misers to nothing so fitly as to a whale; 'a plays and tumbles, driving the poor fry before him, and at last devour them all at a mouthful. Such whales have I heard on o' the land, who never leave gaping till they swallow'd the whole parish, church, steeple, bells, and all. 35

*Per.* [Aside.] A pretty moral.

3. *Fish.* But, master, if I had been the sexton, I would have been that day in the belfry. 40

2. *Fish.* Why, man?

3. *Fish.* Because he should have swallowed me too; and when I had been in his belly, I would have kept such a jangling of the bells, that he should never have left, till he cast bells, steeple, church, and parish, up again. But if the good King Simonides were of my mind, — 45

*Per.* [Aside.] Simonides !

*3. Fish.* We would purge the land of these drones, 50  
that rob the bee of her honey.

*Per.* [Aside.] How from the finny subject of the sea  
These fishers tell the infirmities of men ;  
And from their watery empire recollect  
All that may men approve or men detect ! 55  
Peace be at your labour, honest fishermen.

*2. Fish.* Honest ! good fellow, what's that ? If  
it be a day fits you, search out of the calendar,  
and nobody look after it.

*Per.* May see the sea hath cast upon your coast — 60

*2. Fish.* What a drunken knave was the sea to cast  
thee in our way !

*Per.* A man whom both the waters and the wind,  
In that vast tennis-court, hath made the ball  
For them to play upon, entreats you pity him. 65  
He asks of you, that never us'd to beg.

*1. Fish.* No, friend, cannot you beg ? Here's  
them in our country of Greece gets more with  
begging than we can do with working.

*2. Fish.* Canst thou catch any fishes, then ? 70

*Per.* I never practis'd it.

*2. Fish.* Nay, then thou wilt starve, sure ; for  
here's nothing to be got now-a-days, unless  
thou canst fish for't.

*Per.* What I have been I have forgot to know, 75  
But what I am, want teaches me to think on, —

A man throng'd up with cold. My veins are chill,  
 And have no more of life than may suffice  
 To give my tongue that heat to ask your help ;  
 Which if you shall refuse, when I am dead, 80  
 For that I am a man, pray see me buried.

1. *Fish.* Die, *quoth-a?* Now gods forbid't, an I have  
 a gown here ! Come, put it on ; keep thee warm.  
 Now, afore me, a handsome fellow ! Come,  
 thou shalt go home, and we'll have flesh for holi-  
 days, fish for fasting-days, and, moreo'er, pud-  
 dings and flap-jacks, and thou shalt be welcome.

*Per.* I thank you, sir.

2. *Fish.* Hark you, my friend. You said you could  
 not beg ? 90

*Per.* I did but crave.

2. *Fish.* But crave ! Then I'll turn craver too,  
 and so I shall scape whipping.

*Per.* Why, are all your beggars whipp'd, then ?

2. *Fish.* O, not all, my friend, not all ; for if all 95  
 your beggars were whipp'd, I would wish no  
 better office than to be beadle. But, master,  
 I'll go draw up the net.

[*Exit with Third Fisherman.*]

*Per. [Aside.]* How well this honest mirth becomes  
 their labour !

1. *Fish.* Hark you, sir, do you know where ye 100  
 are ?

*Per.* Not well.

1. *Fish.* Why, I'll tell you. This is called Pentapolis, and our king the good Simonides.

*Per.* The good Simonides, do you call him ? 105

1. *Fish.* Ay, sir ; and he deserves so to be call'd for his peaceable reign and good government.

*Per.* He is a happy king, since he gains from his subjects the name of good by his government. 110  
How far is his court distant from this shore ?

1. *Fish.* Marry, sir, half a day's journey. And I'll tell you, he hath a fair daughter, and to-morrow is her birthday ; and there are princes and knights come from all parts of the world 115 to joust and tourney for her love.

*Per.* Were my fortunes equal to my desires, I could wish to make one there.

1. *Fish.* O, sir, things must be as they may ; and what a man cannot get, he may lawfully deal 120 for — his wife's soul.

*Re-enter Second and Third Fishermen, drawing up a net.*

2. *Fish.* Help, master, help ! here's a fish hangs in the net, like a poor man's right in the law ; 'twill hardly come out. Ha ! bots on't, 'tis come at last, and 'tis turned to a rusty armour. 125

*Per.* An armour, friends ! I pray you, let me see it. Thanks, Fortune, yet, that, after all thy crosses, Thou giv'st me somewhat to repair myself ;

And though it was mine own, part of my heritage,  
 Which my dead father did bequeath to me,      130  
 With this strict charge, even as he left his life,  
 "Keep it, my Pericles; it hath been a shield  
 'Twixt me and death," — and pointed to this brace —  
 "For that it sav'd me, keep it. In like necessity —  
 The which the gods protect thee from! — may't  
 defend thee."      135

It kept where I kept, I so dearly lov'd it;  
 Till the rough seas, that spares not any man,  
 Took it in rage, though calm'd have given't again.  
 I thank thee for't. My shipwreck now's no ill,  
 Since I have here my father's gift in's will.      140

1. *Fish.* What mean you, sir?

*Per.* To beg of you, kind friends, this coat of worth,  
 For it was sometime target to a king.  
 I know it by this mark. He lov'd me dearly,  
 And for his sake I wish the having of it;      145  
 And that you'd guide me to your sovereign's court,  
 Where with it I may appear a gentleman;  
 And if that ever my low fortune's better,  
 I'll pay your bounties; till then rest your debtor.

1. *Fish.* Why, wilt thou tourney for the lady?      150

*Per.* I'll show the virtue I have borne in arms.

1. *Fish.* Why, do'e take it, and the gods give thee  
 good on't!

2. *Fish.* Ay, but hark you, my friend; 'twas we that  
 made up this garment through the rough seams      155

of the waters. There are certain condolements, certain vails. I hope, sir, if you thrive, you'll remember from whence you had them.

*Per.* Believe't, I will.

By your furtherance I am clothed in steel ; 160  
 And, spite of all the rapture of the sea,  
 This jewel holds his building on my arm.  
 Unto thy value I will mount myself  
 Upon a courser, whose delightful steps  
 Shall make the gazer joy to see him tread. 165  
 Only, my friend, I yet am unprovided  
 Of a pair of bases.

2. *Fish.* We'll sure provide. Thou shalt have my best gown to make thee a pair ; and I'll bring thee to the court myself. 170

*Per.* Then honour be but equal to my will,  
 This day I'll rise, or else add ill to ill. [Exeunt.]

## SCENE II

[*The same. A public way or platform leading to the lists. A pavilion by the side of it for the reception of the King, Princess, Lords, etc.*]

*Enter Simonides, Thaisa, [Lords] and Attendants.*

*Sim.* Are the knights ready to begin the triumph ?

1. *Lord.* They are, my liege ;

And stay your coming to present themselves.

Sim. Return them, we are ready ; and our daughter,  
 In honour of whose birth these triumphs are, 5  
 Sits here, like beauty's child, whom nature gat  
 For men to see, and seeing wonder at.

[Exit a Lord.]

Thai. It pleaseth you, my royal father, to express  
 My commendations great, whose merit's less.

Sim. It's fit it should be so, for princes are 10  
 A model which heaven makes like to itself.  
 As jewels lose their glory if neglected,  
 So princes their renowns if not respected.  
 'Tis now your honour, daughter, to interpret  
 The labour of each knight in his device. 15

Thai. Which, to preserve mine honour, I'll perform.

*The First Knight passes by [and his Squire presents his  
 shield to the Princess].*

Sim. Who is the first that doth prefer himself ?

Thai. A knight of Sparta, my renowned father ;  
 And the device he bears upon his shield  
 Is a black Ethiop reaching at the sun ; 20  
 The word, " *Lux tua vita mihi.*"

Sim. He loves you well that holds his life of you.

*The Second Knight [passes by].*

Who is the second that presents himself ?

Thai. A prince of Macedon, my royal father ;  
 And the device he bears upon his shield 25

Is an armed knight that's conquered by a lady ;  
 The motto thus, in Spanish, “*Piu por dulzura que  
 por fuerza.*”

*The Third Knight [passes by].*

*Sim.* And what's the third ?

*Thai.* The third of Antioch ;

And his device, a wreath of chivalry ;  
 The word, “*Me pompæ provexit apex.*” 30

*The Fourth Knight [passes by].*

*Sim.* What is the fourth ?

*Thai.* A burning torch that's turned upside down ;  
 The word, “*Quod me alit, me extinguit.*”

*Sim.* Which shows that beauty hath his power and will,  
 Which can as well inflame as it can kill. 35

*The Fifth Knight [passes by].*

*Thai.* The fifth, an hand environed with clouds,  
 Holding out gold that's by the touchstone tried ;  
 The motto thus, “*Sic spectanda fides.*”

*The Sixth Knight [Pericles, passes by].*

*Sim.* And what's

The sixth and last, the which the knight himself 40  
 With such a graceful courtesy delivered ?

*Thai.* He seems to be a stranger ; but his present is

A withered branch, that's only green at top ;  
 The motto, "*In hac spe vivo.*"

*Sim.* A pretty moral.

45

From the dejected state wherein he is,  
 He hopes by you his fortunes yet may flourish.

1. *Lord.* He had need mean better than his outward show  
 Can any way speak in his just commend ;

For by his rusty outside he appears 50  
 To have practis'd more the whipstock than the lance.

2. *Lord.* He well may be a stranger, for he comes  
 To an honour'd triumph strangely furnished.

3. *Lord.* And on set purpose let his armour rust  
 Until this day, to scour it in the dust. 55

*Sim.* Opinion's but a fool, that makes us scan  
 The outward habit by the inward man.

But stay, the knights are coming. We will withdraw  
 Into the gallery. [Exeunt.]

*Great shouts within, and all cry,*  
 "The mean knight !"

### SCENE III

[*The same. A hall of state: a banquet prepared.*]

*Enter Simonides, [Thaisa, Marshal, Lords, Attendants]  
 and Knights, from tilting.*

*Sim.* Knights,

To say you're welcome were superfluous.  
 To place upon the volume of your deeds,

As in a title-page, your worth in arms,  
Were more than you expect, or more than's  
fit, 5

Since every worth in show commends itself.  
Prepare for mirth, for mirth becomes a feast.  
You are princes and my guests.

*Thai.* But you, my knight and guest;  
To whom this wreath of victory I give, 10  
And crown you king of this day's happiness.

*Per.* 'Tis more by fortune, lady, than my merit.

*Sim.* Call it by what you will, the day is yours;  
And here, I hope, is none that envies it.

In framing an artist, Art hath thus decreed, 15  
To make some good, but others to exceed;  
And you are her labour'd scholar. Come, queen  
o' the feast, —

For, daughter, so you are, — here take your place.  
Marshal the rest, as they deserve their grace.

*Knights.* We are honour'd much by good Simonides. 20

*Sim.* Your presence glads our days. Honour we love;  
For who hates honour hates the gods above.

*Marshal.* Sir, yonder is your place.

*Per.* Some other is more fit.

1. *Knight.* Contend not, sir; for we are gentlemen  
That neither in our hearts nor outward eyes 25  
Envies the great nor shall the low despise.

*Per.* You are right courteous knights.

*Sim.* Sit, sir, sit.

[*Aside.*] By Jove, I wonder, that is king of thoughts,  
These cates resist me, he not thought upon.

*Thai.* [*Aside.*] By Juno, that is queen of marriage, 30  
All viands that I eat do seem unsavoury,  
Wishing him my meat. — Sure, he's a gallant gentle-  
man.

*Sim.* He's but a country gentleman,  
Has done no more than other knights have done,  
Has broken a staff or so ; so let it pass. 35

*Thai.* [*Aside.*] To me he seems like diamond to glass.

*Per.* [*Aside.*] Yon king's to me like to my father's  
picture,

Which tells me in that glory once he was ;  
Had princes sit, like stars, about his throne,  
And he the sun, for them to reverence ; 40  
None that beheld him, but, like lesser lights,  
Did veil their crowns to his supremacy ;  
Where now his son's like a glow-worm in the night,  
The which hath fire in darkness, none in light ;  
Whereby I see that Time's the king of men, 45  
He's both their parent, and he is their grave,  
And gives them what he will, not what they crave.

*Sim.* What, are you merry, knights ?

*Knights.* Who can be other in this royal presence ?

*Sim.* Here, with a cup that's stor'd unto the brim, — 50  
As you do love, fill to your mistress' lips, —  
We drink this health to you.

*Knights.* We thank your Grace.

*Sim.* Yet pause a while;

Yon knight doth sit too melancholy,  
As if the entertainment in our court  
Had not a show might countervail his worth.  
Note it not you, Thaisa?

55

*Thai.* What is it  
To me, my father?

*Sim.* O, attend, my daughter.

Princes in this should live like gods above,  
Who freely give to every one that come  
To honour them;  
And princes not doing so are like to gnats,  
Which make a sound, but kill'd are wond'red at.  
Therefore to make his entrance more sweet,  
Here, say we drink this standing-bowl of wine to  
him.

60

65

*Thai.* Alas, my father, it befits not me  
Unto a stranger knight to be so bold.  
He may my proffer take for an offence,  
Since men take women's gifts for impudence.

*Sim.* How! 70

Do as I bid you, or you'll move me else.

*Thai.* [Aside.] Now, by the gods, he could not please  
me better.

*Sim.* And furthermore tell him, we desire to know of  
him,

Of whence he is, his name, and parentage.

*Thai.* The King my father, sir, has drunk to you. 75

*Per.* I thank him.

*Thai.* Wishing it so much blood unto your life.

*Per.* I thank both him and you, and pledge him freely.

*Thai.* And further he desires to know of you,

Of whence you are, your name, and parentage. 80

*Per.* A gentleman of Tyre ; my name, Pericles ;

My education been in arts and arms ;

Who, looking for adventures in the world,

Was by the rough seas reft of ships and men,

And after shipwreck driven upon this shore. 85

*Thai.* He thanks your Grace ; names himself Pericles,

A gentleman of Tyre,

Who only by misfortune of the seas

Bereft of ships and men, cast on this shore.

*Sim.* Now, by the gods, I pity his misfortune, 90

And will awake him from his melancholy.

Come, gentlemen, we sit too long on trifles,

And waste the time, which looks for other revels.

Even in your armours, as you are address'd,

Will very well become a soldier's dance. 95

I will not have excuse, with saying this

Loud music is too harsh for ladies' heads,

Since they love men in arms as well as beds.

*They dance.*

So, this was well ask'd, 'twas so well perform'd.

Come, sir,

100

Here is a lady that wants breathing too ;

And I have heard you knights of Tyre

Are excellent in making ladies trip ;  
And that their measures are as excellent.

*Per.* In those that practice them they are, my lord. 105

*Sim.* O, that's as much as you would be denied

Of your fair courtesy.                                    *They dance.*

Unclasp, unclasp :

Thanks, gentlemen, to all ; all have done well,

[To *Per.*] But you the best. Pages and lights, to  
conduct

These knights unto their several lodgings ! [To

*Per.*] Yours, sir,    110

We have given order to be next our own.

*Per.* I am at your Grace's pleasure.

[*Sim.*] Princes, it is too late to talk of love,

And that's the mark I know you level at ;

Therefore each one betake him to his rest.            115

To-morrow all for speeding do their best.

[*Exeunt.*]

#### SCENE IV

[*Tyre. A room in the Governor's house.*]

*Enter Helicanus and Escanes.*

*Hel.* No, Escanes, know this of me,  
Antiochus from incest lived not free ;  
For which, the most high gods not minding longer  
To withhold the vengeance that they had in store,  
Due to this heinous capital offence,                            5

Even in the height and pride of all his glory,  
 When he was seated in a chariot  
 Of an inestimable value, and his daughter with him,  
 A fire from heaven came and shrivell'd up  
 Their bodies, even to loathing ; for they so stunk, 10  
 That all those eyes ador'd them ere their fall  
 Scorn now their hand should give them burial.

*Esca.* 'Twas very strange.

*Hel.* And yet but justice ; for though  
 This king were great, his greatness was no guard  
 To bar heaven's shaft, but sin had his reward. 15

*Esca.* 'Tis very true.

*Enter two or three Lords.*

1. *Lord.* See, not a man in private conference  
 Or council has respect with him but he.

2. *Lord.* It shall no longer grieve without reproof.

3. *Lord.* And curs'd be he that will not second it. 20

1. *Lord.* Follow me, then. Lord Helicane, a word.

*Hel.* With me ? and welcome. Happy day, my lords.

1. *Lord.* Know that our griefs are risen to the top,  
 And now at length they overflow their banks.

*Hel.* Your griefs ! For what ? Wrong not your prince  
 you love. 25

1. *Lord.* Wrong not yourself, then, noble Helicane ;  
 But if the Prince do live, let us salute him,  
 Or know what ground's made happy by his breath.  
 If in the world he live, we'll seek him out ;

If in his grave he rest, we'll find him there ; 30  
And be resolv'd he lives to govern us,  
Or dead, give's cause to mourn his funeral,  
And leave us to our free election.

2. *Lord.* Whose death's indeed the strongest in our  
censure ;

And knowing this kingdom is without a head, — 35  
Like goodly buildings left without a roof  
Soon fall to ruin, — your noble self,  
That best know how to rule and how to reign,  
We thus submit unto, — our sovereign.

*All.* Live, noble Helicane ! 40

*Hel.* By honour's cause, forbear your suffrages.

If that you love Prince Pericles, forbear.  
Take I your wish, I leap into the seas,  
Where's hourly trouble for a minute's ease.  
A twelvemonth longer, let me entreat you to 45  
Forbear the absence of your king ;  
If in which time expir'd, he not return,  
I shall with aged patience bear your yoke.  
But if I cannot win you to this love,  
Go search like nobles, like noble subjects, 50  
And in your search spend your adventurous worth ;  
Whom if you find, and win unto return,  
You shall like diamonds sit about his crown.

1. *Lord.* To wisdom he's a fool that will not yield ;

And since Lord Helicane enjoineth thus, 55  
We with our travels will endeavour us.

*Hel.* Then you love us, we you, and we'll clasp hands.  
When peers thus knit, a kingdom ever stands.

*Exeunt.*

## SCENE V

[*Pentapolis. A room in the palace.*]

*Enter Simonides, reading of a letter, at one door: the Knights meet him.*

1. *Knight.* Good Morrow to the good Simonides.

Sim. Knights, from my daughter this I let you know,  
That for this twelvemonth she'll not undertake  
A married life.

Her reason to herself is only known,  
Which from her by no means can I get. 5

2. *Knight.* May we not get access to her, my lord?

*Sim.* Faith, by no means; she hath so strictly tied  
Her to her chamber, that 'tis impossible.

One twelve moons more she'll wear Diana's  
livery; 10

This by the eye of Cynthia hath she vowed,  
And on her virgin honour will not break it.

*3. Knight.* Loath to bid farewell, we take our leaves.

[*Exeunt Knights.*]

Sim. So,

They are well dispatch'd; now to my daughter's  
letter. 15

She tells me here, she'll wed the stranger knight,

Or never more to view nor day nor light.  
'Tis well, mistress ; your choice agrees with mine.  
I like that well. Nay, how absolute she's in't,  
Not minding whether I dislike or no ! 20  
Well, I do commend her choice ;  
And will no longer have it be delayed.  
Soft ! here he comes. I must dissemble it.

*Enter Pericles.*

*Per.* All fortune to the good Simonides !

*Sim.* To you as much, sir ! I am beholding to you 25  
For your sweet music this last night. I do  
Protest my ears were never better fed  
With such delightful pleasing harmony.

*Per.* It is your Grace's pleasure to commend ;  
Not my desert.

*Sim.* Sir, you are Music's master. 30

*Per.* The worst of all her scholars, my good lord.

*Sim.* Let me ask you one thing :  
What do you think of my daughter sir ?

*Per.* A most virtuous princess.

*Sim.* And she is fair too, is she not ? 35

*Per.* As a fair day in summer ; wondrous fair.

*Sim.* Sir, my daughter thinks very well of you ;  
Ay, so well, that you must be her master,  
And she will be your scholar ; therefore look  
to it.

Per. I am unworthy for her schoolmaster. 40

Sim. She thinks not so ; peruse this writing else.

Per. [Aside.] What's here ?

A letter, that she loves the knight of Tyre !

'Tis the King's subtilty to have my life.

O, seek not to entrap me, gracious lord, 45

A stranger and distressed gentleman,

That never aim'd so high to love your daughter,

But bent all offices to honour her.

Sim. Thou hast bewitch'd my daughter, and thou art

A villain. 50

Per. By the gods, I have not.

Never did thought of mine levy offence ;

Nor never did my actions yet commence

A deed might gain her love or your displeasure.

Sim. Traitor, thou liest.

Per. Traitor !

Sim. Ay, traitor. 55

Per. Even in his throat — unless it be the King —

That calls me traitor, I return the lie.

Sim. [Aside.] Now, by the gods, I do applaud his courage.

Per. My actions are as noble as my thoughts,

That never relish'd of a base descent. 60

I came unto your court for honour's cause,

And not to be a rebel to her state ;

And he that otherwise accounts of me,

This sword shall prove he's honour's enemy.

Sim. No?

65

Here comes my daughter, she can witness it.

*Enter Thaisa.*

Per. Then, as you are as virtuous as fair,  
 Resolve your angry father, if my tongue  
 Did e'er solicit, or my hand subscribe  
 To any syllable that made love to you. 70

Thai. Why, sir, say if you had,  
 Who takes offence at that would make me glad ?

Sim. Yea, mistress, are you so peremptory ?

[Aside.] I am glad on't with all my heart. —

I'll tame you ; I'll bring you in subjection. 75

Will you, not having my consent,  
 Bestow your love and your affections  
 Upon a stranger ? [aside] who, for aught I know,  
 May be, nor can I think the contrary,  
 As great in blood as I myself. —

Therefore hear you, mistress : either frame  
 Your will to mine, — and you, sir, hear you,  
 Either be rul'd by me, — or I will make you —  
 Man and wife.

Nay, come, your hands and lips must seal it  
 too ;

And being join'd, I'll thus your hopes destroy ; 86  
 And for a further grief, — God give you joy !  
 What, are you both pleas'd ?

*Thai.*

Yes, if you love me, sir.

*Per.* Even as my life my blood that fosters it.

*Sim.* What, are you both agreed?

90

*Both.* Yes, if't please your Majesty.

*Sim.* It pleaseth me so well, that I will see you wed;

And then with what haste you can, get you to bed.

*Exeunt.*



## ACT THIRD

*Enter Gower.*

*Gow.* Now sleep y-slaked hath the rout.  
No din but snores the house about,  
Made louder by the o'er-fed breast  
Of this most pompous marriage-feast.  
The cat, with eyne of burning coal,  
Now couches 'fore the mouse's hole ;  
And crickets sing at the oven's mouth,  
Are the blither for their drouth. 5  
Hymen hath brought the bride to bed,  
Where, by the loss of maidenhead,  
A babe is moulded. Be attent,  
And time that is so briefly spent  
With your fine fancies quaintly eche.  
What's dumb in show I'll plain with speech. 10

[DUMB SHOW.]

*Enter Pericles and Simonides, at one door, with Attendants.* A Messenger meets them, kneels, and gives Pericles a letter. Pericles shows it Simonides; the Lords kneel to him. Then enter Thaisa with child, with Lychorida a nurse. The King shows her the letter; she rejoices. She and Pericles take leave of her father, and depart [with Lychorida and their Attendants. Then exeunt Simonides and the rest].

By many a dern and painful perch, 15  
Of Pericles the careful search,  
By the four opposing coigns  
Which the world together joins,  
Is made with all due diligence  
That horse and sail and high expense 20  
Can stead the quest. At last from Tyre,  
Fame answering the most strange inquire,  
To the court of King Simonides  
Are letters brought, the tenour these :  
Antiochus and his daughter dead, 25  
The men of Tyrus on the head  
Of Helicanus would set on  
The crown of Tyre, but he will none.  
The mutiny he there hastes t'oppress ;  
Says to 'em, if King Pericles 30  
Come not home in twice six moons,  
He, obedient to their dooms,  
Will take the crown. The sum of this,  
Brought hither to Pentapolis,  
Y-ravished the regions round, 35  
And every one with claps can sound,  
"Our heir-apparent is a king !"  
Who dream'd, who thought of such a thing ?"  
Brief, he must hence depart to Tyre :  
His queen with child makes her desire — 40  
Which who shall cross ? — along to go.  
Omit we all their dole and woe.

Lychorida, her nurse, she takes,  
 And so to sea. Their vessel shakes  
 On Neptune's billow ; half the flood      45  
 Hath their keel cut. But fortune's mood  
 Varies again. The grisled north  
 Disgorges such a tempest forth,  
 That, as a duck for life that dives,  
 So up and down the poor ship drives.      50  
 The lady shrieks, and well-a-near  
 Does fall in travail with her fear ;  
 And what ensues in this fell storm  
 Shall for itself itself perform.  
 I will relate, action may      55  
 Conveniently the rest convey,  
 Which might not what by me is told.  
 In your imagination hold  
 This stage the ship, upon whose deck  
 The sea-tost Pericles appears to speak.      60

[Exit.]

## SCENE I

*Enter Pericles, on shipboard.*

Per. Thou god of this great vast, rebuke these surges,  
 Which wash both heaven and hell ; and thou, that  
 hast      4  
 Upon the winds command, bind them in brass,  
 Having call'd them from the deep ! O, still  
 Thy deaf'ning, dreadful thunders ; gently quench

Thy nimble, sulphurous flashes ! O, how, Lychorida,  
 How does my queen ? Thou storm, venomously  
 Wilt thou spit all thyself ? The seaman's whistle  
 Is as a whisper in the ears of death,  
 Unheard. Lychorida ! — Lucina, O 10  
 Divinest patroness, and midwife gentle  
 To those that cry by night, convey thy deity  
 Aboard our dancing boat ; make swift the pangs  
 Of my queen's travails !

*Enter Lychorida [with an Infant].*

Now, Lychorida !

*Lyc.* Here is a thing too young for such a place, 15  
 Who, if it had conceit, would die, as I  
 Am like to do. Take in your arms this piece  
 Of your dead queen.

*Per.* How, how, Lychorida ?

*Lyc.* Patience, good sir ; do not assist the storm.  
 Here's all that is left living of your queen, 20  
 A little daughter. For the sake of it,  
 Be manly, and take comfort.

*Per.* O you gods !  
 Why do you make us love your goodly gifts,  
 And snatch them straight away ? We here below  
 Recall not what we give, and therein may 25  
 Use honour with you.

*Lyc.* Patience, good sir,  
 Even for this charge.

*Per.* Now, mild may be thy life !  
For a more blustrous birth had never babe.  
Quiet and gentle thy conditions ! for  
Thou art the rudest welcome to this world 30  
That ever was prince's child. Happy what follows !  
Thou hast as chiding a nativity  
As fire, air, water, earth, and heaven can make,  
To herald thee from the womb. Even at the first  
Thy loss is more than can thy portage quit, 35  
With all thou canst find here. Now, the good gods  
Throw their best eyes upon 't !

*Enter two Sailors.*

1. *Sail.* What courage, sir ? God save you !

*Per.* Courage enough. I do not fear the flaw ;

It hath done to me the worst. Yet, for the love  
Of this poor infant, this fresh-new sea-farer, 41  
I would it would be quiet.

1. *Sail.* Slack the bolins there ! Thou wilt not, wilt  
thou ? Blow, and split thyself.

2. *Sail.* But sea-room, an the brine and cloudy 45  
billow kiss the moon, I care not.

1. *Sail.* Sir, your queen must overboard. The  
sea works high, the wind is loud, and will not  
lie till the ship be clear'd of the dead.

*Per.* That's your superstition.

50

1. *Sail.* Pardon us, sir ; with us at sea it hath been  
still observed ; and we are strong in custom.

Therefore briefly yield her ; for she must overboard straight.

*Per.* As you think meet. Most wretched queen ! 55

*Lyc.* Here she lies, sir.

*Per.* A terrible childbed hast thou had, my dear ;  
 No light, no fire. The unfriendly elements  
 Forgot thee utterly ; nor have I time  
 To give thee hallow'd to thy grave, but straight  
 Must cast thee, scarcely coffin'd, in the ooze ; 61  
 Where, for a monument upon thy bones,  
 And aye-remaining lamps, the belching whale,  
 And humming water must o'erwhelm thy corpse,  
 Lying with simple shells. O Lychorida, 65  
 Bid Nestor bring me spices, ink and paper,  
 My casket and my jewels ; and bid Nicander  
 Bring me the satin coffin. Lay the babe  
 Upon the pillow. Hie thee, whiles I say  
 A priestly farewell to her. Suddenly, woman. 70

[*Exit Lychorida.*]

2. *Sail.* Sir, we have a chest beneath the hatches,  
 caulk'd and bitumed ready.

*Per.* I thank thee. Mariner, say what coast is this ?

2. *Sail.* We are near Tarsus.

*Per.* Thither, gentle mariner, 75  
 Alter thy course for Tyre. When canst thou reach  
 it ?

2. *Sail.* By break of day, if the wind cease.

*Per.* O, make for Tarsus !

There will I visit Cleon, for the babe  
Cannot hold out to Tyrus. There I'll leave it 80  
At careful nursing. Go thy ways, good mariner.  
I'll bring the body presently. *Exeunt.*

## SCENE II

[*Ephesus. A room in Cerimon's house.*]

*Enter Cerimon, with a Servant [and some Persons who have been shipwrecked].*

*Cer.* Philemon, ho !

*Enter Philemon.*

*Phil.* Doth my lord call ?

*Cer.* Get fire and meat for these poor men.

'T has been a turbulent and stormy night.

*Serv.* I have been in many ; but such a night as this, 5  
Till now, I ne'er endured.

*Cer.* Your master will be dead ere you return.

There's nothing can be minist'red to nature

That can recover him. [To *Philemon.*] Give this  
to the 'pothecary,

And tell me how it works.

[*Exeunt all but Cerimon.*]

*Enter two Gentlemen.*

1. *Gent.* Good Morrow 10

2. *Gent.* Good Morrow to your lordship.

Cer.

Gentlemen,

Why do you stir so early ?

1. Gent. Sir,

Our lodgings, standing bleak upon the sea,  
 Shook as the earth did quake ; 15  
 The very principals did seem to rend,  
 And all to topple. Pure surprise and fear  
 Made me to quit the house.

2. Gent. That is the cause we trouble you so early ;  
 'Tis not our husbandry.

Cer.

O, you say well. 20

1. Gent. But I much marvel that your lordship, having  
 Rich tire about you, should at these early hours  
 Shake off the golden slumber of repose.  
 'Tis most strange,  
 Nature should be so conversant with pain, 25  
 Being thereto not compelled.

Cer.

I hold it ever

Virtue and cunning were endowments greater  
 Than nobleness and riches. Careless heirs  
 May the two latter darken and expend,  
 But immortality attends the former, 30  
 Making a man a god. 'Tis known, I ever  
 Have studied physic, through which secret art,  
 By turning o'er authorities, I have,  
 Together with my practice, made familiar  
 To me and to my aid the blest infusions 35  
 That dwells in vegetives, in metals, stones ;

And I can speak of the disturbances  
That Nature works, and of her cures ; which doth  
give me  
A more content in course of true delight  
Than to be thirsty after tottering honour, 40  
Or tie my pleasure up in silken bags,  
To please the fool and Death.

2. *Gent.* Your honour has through Ephesus poured  
forth

Your charity, and hundreds call themselves  
Your creatures, who by you have been restored ; 45  
And not your knowledge, your personal pain, but  
even

Your purse, still open, hath built Lord Cerimon  
Such strong renown as time shall ne'er decay.

*Enter two or three [Servants] with a chest.*

1. *Serv.* So ; lift there.

*Cer.* What is that ?

1. *Serv.* Sir, even now  
Did the sea toss up upon our shore this chest. 50  
'Tis of some wreck.

*Cer.* Set 't down, let 's look upon 't.

2. *Gent.* 'Tis like a coffin, sir.

*Cer.* Whate'er it be,  
'Tis wondrous heavy. Wrench it open straight.  
If the sea's stomach be o'ercharg'd with gold, 54  
'Tis a good constraint of fortune it belches upon us.

2. Gent. 'Tis so, my lord.

Cer. How close 'tis caulk'd and bitumed !  
Did the sea cast it up ?

1. *Serv.* I never saw so huge a billow, sir,  
As toss'd it upon shore.

*Cer.* Wrench it open.

Soft ! it smells most sweetly in my sense. 60

## 2. *Gent.* A delicate odour.

*Cer.* As ever hit my nostril. So, up with it.

O you most potent gods ! what's here ? A corse !

## 1. Gent. Most strange!

*Cer.* Shrouded in cloth of state; balm'd and en-  
treasured 65

With full bags of spices ! A passport too !

Apollo, perfect me in the characters !

[Reads from a scroll.]

“Here I give to understand,

If e'er this coffin drives a-land,

I, King Pericles, have lost

70

This queen, worth all our mundane cost.

Who finds her, give her burying.

She was the daughter of a king.

Besides this treasure for a fee,

The gods requite his charity!"

75

If thou liv'st, Pericles, thou hast a heart

That even cracks for woe ! This chanc'd to-night.

2. Gent. Most likely, sir.

Cer. Nay, certainly to-night ;

For look how fresh she looks ! They were too rough  
That threw her in the sea. Make a fire within.  
Fetch hither all my boxes in my closet. 81

[Exit a Servant.]

Death may usurp on nature many hours,  
And yet the fire of life kindle again  
The o'erpress'd spirits. I heard of an Egyptian  
That had nine hours lien dead, 85  
Who was by good appliance recovered.

*Re-enter one [with boxes,] napkins, and fire.*

Well said, well said. — The fire and cloths.  
The rough and woeful music that we have,  
Cause it to sound, beseech you.

The vial once more. How thou stirr'st, thou  
block ! 90

The music there ! I pray you, give her air.

Gentlemen,

This queen will live. Nature awakes ; a warmth  
Breathes out of her. She hath not been entranc'd  
Above five hours. See how she gins to blow 95  
Into life's flower again !

1. Gent.

The heavens

Through you increase our wonder and set up  
Your fame for ever.

Cer.

She is alive ; behold,

Her eyelids, cases to those heavenly jewels  
 Which Pericles hath lost, 100  
 Begin to part their fringes of bright gold ;  
 The diamonds of a most praised water  
 Doth appear, to make the world twice rich. Live,  
 And make us weep to hear your fate, fair creature,  
 Rare as you seem to be. *She moves.*

*Thais.* O dear Diana, 105

Where am I ? Where's my lord ? What world  
 is this ?

*2. Gent.* Is not this strange ?

*1. Gent.* Most rare.

*Cer.* Hush, my gentle neighbours !

Lend me your hands. To the next chamber  
 bear her.

Get linen. Now this matter must be look'd to,  
 For her relapse is mortal. Come, come ; 110  
 And Æsculapius guide us !

*They carry her away. Exeunt omnes.*

### SCENE III

[*Tarsus. A room in Cleon's house.*]

*Enter Pericles, Cleon, Dionyza [and Lychorida, with  
 Marina in her arms].*

*Per.* Most honour'd Cleon, I must needs be gone.  
 My twelve months are expir'd, and Tyrus stands

In a litigious peace. You, and your lady,  
Take from my heart all thankfulness ! The  
gods

Make up the rest upon you !

*Cle.* Your shafts of fortune, though they hurt you  
mortally,

Yet glance full wanderingly on us.

*Dion.* O your sweet queen !  
That the strict fates had pleas'd you had brought  
her hither,  
To have bless'd mine eyes with her !

*Per.* We cannot but obey  
The powers above us. Could I rage and roar 10  
As doth the sea she lies in, yet the end  
Must be as 'tis. My gentle babe Marina, whom,  
For she was born at sea, I have named so,  
here

I charge your charity withal, leaving her  
The infant of your care ; beseeching you 15  
To give her princely training, that she may be  
Manner'd as she is born.

*Cle.* Fear not, my lord, but think  
Your Grace, that fed my country with your  
corn,  
For which the people's prayers still fall upon  
you,  
Must in your child be thought on. If neglec-  
tion 20

Should therein make me vile, the common body,  
 By you reliev'd, would force me to my duty ;  
 But if to that my nature need a spur,  
 The gods revenge it upon me and mine,  
 To the end of generation !

*Per.* I believe you. 25  
 Your honour and your goodness teach me to't,  
 Without your vows. Till she be married,  
 madam,  
 By bright Diana, whom we honour, all  
 Unscissor'd shall this hair of mine remain,  
 Though I show ill in't. So I take my leave. 30  
 Good madam, make me blessed in your care  
 In bringing up my child.

*Dion.* I have one myself,  
 Who shall not be more dear to my respect  
 Than yours, my lord.

*Per.* Madam, my thanks and prayers.  
*Cle.* We'll bring your Grace e'en to the edge o' the  
 shore, 35  
 Then give you up to the mask'd Neptune and  
 The gentlest winds of heaven.

*Per.* I will embrace  
 Your offer. Come, dearest madam. O, no tears,  
 Lychorida, no tears.  
 Look to your little mistress, on whose grace 40  
 You may depend hereafter. Come, my lord.

[*Exeunt.*]

## SCENE IV

[Ephesus. A room in Cerimon's house.]

Enter Cerimon and Thaisa.

Cer. Madam, this letter and some certain jewels  
Lay with you in your coffer, which are  
At your command. Know you the character ?

Thai. It is my lord's.

That I was shipp'd at sea, I well remember, 5  
Even on my eaning time; but whether there  
Delivered, by the holy gods,  
I cannot rightly say. But since King Pericles,  
My wedded lord, I ne'er shall see again,  
A vestal livery will I take me to, 10  
And never more have joy.

Cer. Madam, if this you purpose as ye speak,  
Diana's temple is not distant far,  
Where you may abide till your date expire.  
Moreover, if you please, a niece of mine 15  
Shall there attend you.

Thai. My recompense is thanks, that's all ;  
Yet my good will is great, though the gift  
small. *Exeunt.*

## ACT FOURTH

*Enter Gower.*

*Gow.* Imagine Pericles arriv'd at Tyre,  
Welcom'd and settled to his own desire.  
His woeful queen we leave at Ephesus,  
Unto Diana there as a votaress.  
Now to Marina bend your mind, 5  
Whom our fast-growing scene must find  
At Tarsus, and by Cleon train'd  
In music, letters ; who hath gain'd  
Of education all the grace,  
Which makes her both the heart and place 10  
Of general wonder. But, alack,  
That monster Envy, oft the wrack  
Of earned praise, Marina's life  
Seeks to take off by treason's knife.  
And in this kind hath our Cleon 15  
One daughter, and a wench full grown,  
Even ripe for marriage-rite. This maid  
Hight Philoten ; and it is said  
For certain in our story, she  
Would ever with Marina be : 20  
Be't when she weav'd the sleided silk  
With fingers long, small, white as milk ;  
Or when she would with sharp needle wound  
The cambric, which she made more sound

By hurting it ; or when to the lute 25  
 She sung, and made the night-bird mute,  
 That still records with moan ; or when  
 She would with rich and constant pen  
 Vail to her mistress Dian ; still  
 This Philoten contends in skill 30  
 With absolute Marina : so  
 With the dove of Paphos might the crow  
 Vie feathers white. Marina gets  
 All praises, which are paid as debts,  
 And not as given. This so darks 35  
 In Philoten all graceful marks,  
 That Cleon's wife, with envy rare,  
 A present murderer does prepare  
 For good Marina, that her daughter  
 Might stand peerless by this slaughter. 40  
 The sooner her vile thoughts to stead,  
 Lychorida, our nurse, is dead ;  
 And cursed Dionyza hath  
 The pregnant instrument of wrath  
 Prest for this blow. The unborn event 45  
 I do commend to your content ;  
 Only I carry winged time  
 Post on the lame feet of my rhyme ;  
 Which never could I so convey,  
 Unless your thoughts went on my way. 50  
 Dionyza does appear,  
 With Leonine, a murderer. *Exit.*

## SCENE I

[*Tarsus. An open place near the seashore.*]

*Enter Dionyza with Leonine.*

*Dion.* Thy oath remember; thou hast sworn to do't.  
 'Tis but a blow, which never shall be known.  
 Thou canst not do a thing in the world so soon,  
 To yield thee so much profit. Let not conscience,  
 Which is but cold, inflaming love i' thy bosom, 5  
 Inflame too nicely; nor let pity, which  
 Even women have cast off, melt thee, but be  
 A soldier to thy purpose.

*Leon.* I will do't; but yet she is a goodly creature.

*Dion.* The fitter, then, the gods should have 10  
 her. Here she comes weeping for her only  
 mistress' death. Thou art resolv'd?

*Leon.* I am resolv'd.

*Enter Marina, with a basket of flowers.*

*Mar.* No, I will rob Tellus of her weed,  
 To strew thy green with flowers. The yellows,  
 blues, 15  
 The purple violets and marigolds  
 Shall as a carpet hang upon thy grave  
 While summer-days doth last. Ay me! poor  
 maid,

Born in a tempest, when my mother died,  
This world to me is like a lasting storm,      20  
Whirring me from my friends.

*Dion.* How now, Marina ! why do you keep alone ?  
How chance my daughter is not with you ? Do  
not

Consume your blood with sorrowing ; you have  
A nurse of me. Lord, how your favour's  
chang'd      25

With this unprofitable woe !

Come, give me your flowers. Near the sea mar-  
gent

Walk with Leonine ; the air is quick there,  
And it pierces and sharpens the stomach. Come,  
Leonine, take her by the arm, walk with her.

*Mar.* No, I pray you ;      31  
I'll not bereave you of your servant.

*Dion.*      Come, come ;  
I love the King your father, and yourself,  
With more than foreign heart. We every day  
Expect him here. When he shall come and  
find      35

Our paragon to all reports thus blasted,  
He will repent the breadth of his great voyage ;  
Blame both my lord and me, that we have  
taken

No care to your best courses. Go, I pray you,  
Walk, and be cheerful once again ; reserve      40

That excellent complexion, which did steal  
The eyes of young and old. Care not for me ;  
I can go home alone.

*Mar.* Well, I will go ;

But yet I have no desire to it.

*Dion.* Come, come, I know 'tis good for you.

Walk half an hour, Leonine, at the least.

46

Remember what I have said.

*Leon.* I warrant you, madam.

*Dion.* I'll leave you, my sweet lady, for a  
while.

Pray, walk softly, do not heat your blood.

49

What ! I must have a care of you.

*Mar.* My thanks, sweet madam.

[*Exit Dionyza.*]

Is this wind westerly that blows ?

*Leon.* South-west.

*Mar.* When I was born, the wind was north.

*Leon.* Was't so ?

*Mar.* My father, as nurse says, did never fear,

But cried "Good seamen !" to the sailors,  
galling

His kingly hands, haling ropes ;

55

And, clasping to the mast, endured a sea

That almost burst the deck, —

*Leon.* When was this ?

*Mar.* When I was born ;

Never was waves nor wind more violent ; —

60

And from the ladder-tackle washes off  
A canvas-climber. "Ha!" says one, "wilt out?"  
And with a dropping industry they skip  
From stem to stern. The boatswain whistles,  
and

The master calls, and trebles their confusion. 65

*Leon.* Come, say your prayers.

*Mar.* What mean you?

*Leon.* If you require a little space for prayer,  
I grant it. Pray, but be not tedious;  
For the gods are quick of ear, and I am sworn 70  
To do my work with haste.

*Mar.* Why will you kill me?

*Leon.* To satisfy my lady.

*Mar.* Why would she have me kill'd?

Now, as I can remember, by my troth,  
I never did her hurt in all my life. 75  
I never spake bad word, nor did ill turn  
To any living creature. Believe me, la,  
I never kill'd a mouse, nor hurt a fly,  
Aye, trod upon a worm against my will,  
But I wept for it. How have I offended, 80  
Wherein my death might yield her any profit,  
Or my life imply her any danger?

*Leon.* My commission

Is not to reason of the deed, but do't.

*Mar.* You will not do't for all the world, I hope. 85  
You are well favoured, and your looks foreshow

You have a gentle heart. I saw you lately,  
 When you caught hurt in parting two that  
 fought;  
 Good sooth, it show'd well in you. Do so now.  
 Your lady seeks my life; come you between, 90  
 And save poor me, the weaker.

*Leon.*

I am sworn,

And will dispatch.

*Enter Pirates.*

1. *Pirate.* Hold, villain ! [Leonine runs away.]
2. *Pirate.* A prize ! a prize !
3. *Pirate.* Half-part, mates, half-part. 95  
 Come, let's have her aboard suddenly.

*Exeunt [Pirates with Marina].*

*Re-enter Leonine.*

*Leon.* These roguing thieves serve the great pirate  
 Valdes,  
 And they have seiz'd Marina. Let her go !  
 There's no hope she will return. I'll swear  
 she's dead,  
 And thrown into the sea. But I'll see further.  
 Perhaps they will but please themselves upon  
 her, 101  
 Not carry her aboard. If she remain,  
 Whom they have ravish'd must by me be slain.

*Exit.*

## SCENE II

[*Mytilene. A room in a brothel.*]

*Enter Pandar, Bawd, and Boult.*

*Pand.* Boult !

*Boult.* Sir ?

*Pand.* Search the market narrowly ; Mytilene is full of gallants. We lost too much money this mart by being too wenchless.

5

*Bawd.* We were never so much out of creatures. We have but poor three, and they can do no more than they can do ; and they with continual action are even as good as rotten.

*Pand.* Therefore let's have fresh ones, what- 10 e'er we pay for them. If there be not a conscience to be us'd in every trade, we shall never prosper.

*Bawd.* Thou say'st true. 'Tis not our bring- 15 ing up of poor bastards, — as I think, I have brought up some eleven, —

*Boult.* Ay, to eleven ; and brought them down again. But shall I search the market ?

*Bawd.* What else, man ? The stuff we have, a strong wind will blow it to pieces, they are 20 so pitifully sodden.

*Pand.* Thou sayest true ; they're too unwhole- some, o' conscience. The poor Transylvanian is dead, that lay with the little baggage.

*Boult.* Ay, she quickly poop'd him; she made him 25  
roast-meat for worms. But I'll go search  
the market.

*Exit.*

*Pand.* Three or four thousand chequins were as  
pretty a proportion to live quietly, and so  
give over. 30

*Bawd.* Why to give over, I pray you? Is it a  
shame to get when we are old?

*Pand.* O, our credit comes not in like the com-  
modity, nor the commodity wages not with  
the danger; therefore, if in our youths we 35  
could pick up some pretty estate, 'twere not  
amiss to keep our door hatch'd. Besides, the  
sore terms we stand upon with the gods will be  
strong with us for giving over.

*Bawd.* Come, other sorts offend as well as we. 40

*Pand.* As well as we! Ay, and better too. We  
offend worse. Neither is our profession any  
trade; it's no calling. But here comes Boult.

*Re-enter Boult, with the Pirates and Marina.*

*Boult.* Come your ways, my masters. You say  
she's a virgin? 45

*1. Pirate.* O, sir, we doubt it not.

*Boult.* Master, I have gone through for this  
piece, you see. If you like her, so; if not, I  
have lost my earnest.

*Bawd.* Boult, has she any qualities? 50

*Boult.* She has a good face, speaks well, and has excellent good clothes. There's no further necessity of qualities can make her be refus'd.

*Bawd.* What's her price, Boult?

*Boult.* I cannot be bated one doit of a thousand pieces. 55

*Pand.* Well, follow me, my masters, you shall have your money presently. Wife, take her in. Instruct her what she has to do, that she may not be raw in her entertainment.

[*Exeunt Pandar and Pirates.*]

*Bawd.* Boult, take you the marks of her, the colour of her hair, complexion, height, her age, with warrant of her virginity; and cry, "He that will give most shall have her first." Such a maid-enhead were no cheap thing, if men were as they have been. Get this done as I command you.

*Boult.* Performance shall follow. *Exit.*

*Mar.* Alack that Leonine was so slack, so slow !

He should have struck, not spoke; or that these pirates,

Not enough barbarous, had not o'erboard thrown  
me 70

For to seek my mother!

*Bawd.* Why lament you, pretty one?

*Mar.* That I am pretty.

*Bawd.* Come, the gods have done their part in you.

*Mar.* I accuse them not.

*Bawd.* You are light into my hands, where you are like to live.

*Mar.* The more my fault

To scape his hands where I was like to die. 80

*Bawd.* Ay, and you shall live in pleasure.

*Mar.* No.

*Bawd.* Yes, indeed shall you, and taste gentlemen of all fashions. You shall fare well; you shall have the difference of all complexions. What! do you stop your ears? 85

*Mar.* Are you a woman?

*Bawd.* What would you have me be, an I be not a woman?

*Mar.* An honest woman, or not a woman. 90

*Bawd.* Marry, whip thee, gosling. I think I shall have something to do with you. Come, you're a young foolish sapling, and must be bow'd as I would have you.

*Mar.* The gods defend me!

*Bawd.* If it please the gods to defend you by men, then men must comfort you, men must feed you, men stir you up. Boult's return'd.

*Re-enter Boult.*

Now, sir, hast thou cried her through the market?

*Boult.* I have cried her almost to the number of 100  
her hairs; I have drawn her picture with my  
voice.

*Bawd.* And I prithee tell me, how dost thou  
find the inclination of the people, especially of  
the younger sort? 105

*Boult.* Faith, they listened to me as they would  
have hearkened to their father's testament.  
There was a Spaniard's mouth so wat'red,  
that he went to bed to her very description.

*Bawd.* We shall have him here to-morrow with 110  
his best ruff on.

*Boult.* To-night, to-night. But, mistress, do you  
know the French knight that cowers i' the  
hams?

*Bawd.* Who, Monsieur Veroles? 115

*Boult.* Ay, he; he offered to cut a caper at the  
proclamation; but he made a groan at it,  
and swore he would see her to-morrow.

*Bawd.* Well, well; as for him, he brought his  
disease hither; here he does but repair it. 120  
I know he will come in our shadow, to scatter  
his crowns in the sun.

*Boult.* Well, if we had of every nation a trav-  
eller, we should lodge them with this sign.

*Bawd.* [To Mar.] Pray you, come hither awhile. 125  
You have fortunes coming upon you. Mark  
me: you must seem to do that fearfully

which you commit willingly; despise profit where you have most gain. To weep that you live as ye do makes pity in your lovers; seldom 130 but that pity begets you a good opinion, and that opinion a mere profit.

*Mar.* I understand you not.

*Boult.* O, take her home, mistress, take her home.

These blushes of hers must be quench'd 135 with some present practice.

[*Bawd.*] Thou say'st true, i' faith, so they must; for your bride goes to that with shame which is her way to go with warrant.

*Boult.* Faith, some do, and some do not. But, 140 mistress, if I have bargain'd for the joint,—

*Bawd.* Thou mayst cut a morsel off the spit?

*Boult.* I may so.

*Bawd.* Who should deny it? Come, young one, I like the manner of your garments well. 145

*Boult.* Ay, by my faith, they shall not be chang'd yet.

*Bawd.* Boult, spend thou that in the town. Report what a sojourner we have; you'll lose nothing by custom. When Nature fram'd this 150 piece, she meant thee a good turn; therefore say what a paragon she is, and thou hast the harvest out of thine own report.

*Boult.* I warrant you, mistress, thunder shall not so awake the beds of eels as my giving out 155

her beauty stir up the lewdly-inclined. I'll bring home some to-night.

*Bawd.* Come your ways; follow me.

*Mar.* If fires be hot, knives sharp, or waters deep,  
Untied I still my virgin knot will keep. 160  
Diana, aid my purpose!

*Bawd.* What have we to do with Diana?

Pray you, will you go with us?

*Exeunt.*

### SCENE III

[*Tarsus. A room in Cleon's house.*]

*Enter Cleon and Dionyza.*

*Dion.* Why, are you foolish? Can it be undone?

*Cle.* O Dionyza, such a piece of slaughter  
The sun and moon ne'er look'd upon!

*Dion.* I think

You'll turn a child again.

*Cle.* Were I chief lord of all this spacious world, 5  
I'd give it to undo the deed. O lady,  
Much less in blood than virtue, yet a princess  
To equal any single crown o' the earth  
I' the justice of compare! O villain Leonine!  
Whom thou hast poisoned too. 10  
If thou hadst drunk to him, 't had been a kind-  
ness  
Becoming well thy fact. What canst thou say

When noble Pericles shall demand his child?

*Dion.* That she is dead. Nurses are not the fates,

To foster it, nor ever to preserve.

15

She died at night; I'll say so. Who can cross it?

Unless you play the pious innocent.

And for an honest attribute cry out.

She died by foul play.

Cle. O, go to. Well, well,  
Of all the faults beneath the heavens, the gods 20  
Do like this worst.

*Dion.* Be one of those that thinks  
The petty wrens of Tarsus will fly hence,  
And open this to Pericles. I do shame  
To think of what a noble strain you are,  
And of how coward a spirit.

Cle. To such proceeding  
Who ever but his approbation added, 26  
Though not his prime consent, he did not flow  
From honourable sources.

Not worth the time of day. It pierc'd me  
thorough ; 35

And though you call my course unnatural,  
You not your child well loving, yet I find  
It greets me as an enterprise of kindness  
Perform'd to your sole daughter.

*Cle.* Heavens forgive it !

*Dion.* And as for Pericles, 40

What should he say ? We wept after her hearse,  
And yet we mourn. Her monument  
Is almost finished, and her epitaphs  
In glittering golden characters express  
A general praise to her, and care in us 45  
At whose expense 'tis done.

*Cle.* Thou art like the harpy,  
Which, to betray, dost, with thine angel's face,  
Seize with thine eagle's talons.

*Dion.* You are like one that superstitiously  
Do swear to the gods that winter kills the flies ; 50  
But yet I know you'll do as I advise.

[*Exeunt.*]

#### SCENE IV

[Enter Gower, before the monument of Marina at Tarsus.]

*Gow.* Thus time we waste, and longest leagues make  
short ;

Sail seas in cockles, have an wish but for't ;  
Making, to take your imagination,

From bourn to bourn, region to region.  
By you being pardoned, we commit no crime 5  
To use one language in each several clime  
Where our scenes seems to live. I do beseech you  
To learn of me, who stand i' the gaps to teach you,  
The stages of our story. Pericles  
Is now again thwarting the wayward seas, 10  
Attended on by many a lord and knight,  
To see his daughter, all his life's delight.  
Old Helicanus goes along. Behind  
Is left to govern it, you bear in mind,  
Old Escanes, whom Helicanus late 15  
Advanc'd in time to great and high estate.  
Well-sailing ships and bounteous winds have  
brought  
This king to Tarsus — think his pilot thought ;  
So with his steerage shall your thoughts grow  
on —  
To fetch his daughter home, who first is gone. 20  
Like motes and shadows see them move a while ;  
Your ears unto your eyes I'll reconcile.

## [DUMB SHOW.]

Enter Pericles, at one door, with all his train : Cleon  
and Dionyza, at the other. Cleon shows Pericles the  
tomb ; whereat Pericles makes lamentation, puts on  
sackcloth, and in a mighty passion departs. [Then  
exeunt Cleon and Dionyza.]

See how belief may suffer by foul show !  
This borrowed passion stands for true old woe ;  
And Pericles, in sorrow all devour'd, 25  
With sighs shot through, and biggest tears o'er-  
shower'd,  
Leaves Tarsus and again embarks. He swears  
Never to wash his face, nor cut his hairs.  
He puts on sackcloth, and to sea. He bears  
A tempest, which his mortal vessel tears, 30  
And yet he rides it out. Now please you wit  
The epitaph is for Marina writ  
By wicked Dionyza.

*[Reads the inscription on Marina's monu-  
ment.]*

“The fairest, sweet'st, and best lies here,  
Who withered in her spring of year. 35  
She was of Tyrus the King's daughter,  
On whom foul death hath made this slaughter.  
Marina was she call'd ; and at her birth,  
Thetis, being proud, swallowed some part o' the  
earth :

Therefore the earth, fearing to be o'erflowed, 40  
Hath Thetis' birth-child on the heavens bestowed ;  
Wherefore she does, and swears she'll never stint,  
Make raging battery upon shores of flint.”  
No visor does become black villainy  
So well as soft and tender flattery. 45  
Let Pericles believe his daughter's dead,

And bear his courses to be ordered  
 By Lady Fortune ; while our scene must play  
 His daughter's woe and heavy well-a-day  
 In her unholy service. Patience, then,      50  
 And think you now are all in Mytilene.      *Exit.*

## SCENE V

[*Mytilene. A street before the brothel.*]

*Enter [from the brothel] two Gentlemen.*

1. *Gent.* Did you ever hear the like ?
2. *Gent.* No, nor never shall do in such a place  
     as this, she being once gone.
1. *Gent.* But to have divinity preach'd there !  
     Did you ever dream of such a thing ?      5
2. *Gent.* No, no. Come, I am for no more  
     bawdy-houses. Shall 's go hear the vestals  
     sing ?
1. *Gent.* I'll do anything now that is virtuous ; but  
     I am out of the road of rutting forever.      10

*Exeunt.*

## SCENE VI

[*The same. A room in the brothel.*]

*Enter Pandar, Bawd, and Boult.*

*Pand.* Well, I had rather than twice the worth of  
 her she had ne'er come here.

*Bawd.* Fie, fie upon her ! she's able to freeze  
the god Priapus, and undo a whole genera-  
tion. We must either get her ravished, or be  
rid of her. When she should do for clients  
her fitment, and do me the kindness of our  
profession, she has me her quirks, her reasons,  
her master reasons, her prayers, her knees ;  
that she would make a puritan of the devil,  
if he should cheapen a kiss of her.

5

*Boult.* Faith, I must ravish her, or she'll dis-  
furnish us of all our cavaliers, and make our  
swearers priests.

10

*Pand.* Now, the pox upon her green-sickness for  
me !

15

*Bawd.* Faith, there's no way to be rid on't but  
by the way to the pox. Here comes the  
Lord Lysimachus disguised.

*Boult.* We should have both lord and lown, if the  
peevish baggage would but give way to cus-  
tomers.

20

*Enter Lysimachus.*

*Lys.* How now ! How a dozen of virginities ?

*Bawd.* Now, the gods to-bless your honour !

*Boult.* I am glad to see your honour in good  
health.

25

*Lys.* You may so ; 'tis the better for you that  
your resorters stand upon sound legs. How

now, wholesome iniquity ! have you that a man may deal withal, and defy the surgeon ?

*Bawd.* We have here one, sir, if she would — 30  
but there never came her like in Mytilene.

*Lys.* If she'd do the deeds of darkness, thou wouldest say.

*Bawd.* Your honour knows what 'tis to say well enough. 35

*Lys.* Well, call forth, call forth.

*Boult.* For flesh and blood, sir, white and red,  
you shall see a rose ; and she were a rose indeed, if she had but —

*Lys.* What, prithee ? 40

*Boult.* O, sir, I can be modest. [Exit.]

*Lys.* That dignifies the renown of a bawd, no less than it gives a good report to a number to be chaste.

*Bawd.* Here comes that which grows to the 45 stalk ; never pluck'd yet, I can assure you.

*Re-enter Boult with Marina.*

Is she not a fair creature ?

*Lys.* Faith, she would serve after a long voyage at sea. Well, there's for you. Leave us.

*Bawd.* I beseech your honour, give me leave a 50 word, and I'll have done presently.

*Lys.* I beseech you, do.

*Bawd.* [Aside to *Marina*.] First, I would have you note, this is an honourable man.

*Mar.* I desire to find him so, that I may worthily 55 note him.

*Bawd.* Next, he's the governor of this country, and a man whom I am bound to.

*Mar.* If he govern the country, you are bound to him indeed; but how honourable he is 60 in that, I know not.

*Bawd.* Pray you, without any more virginal fencing, will you use him kindly? He will line your apron with gold.

*Mar.* What he will do graciously, I will thankfully receive. 65

*Lys.* Ha' you done?

*Bawd.* My lord, she's not pac'd yet; you must take some pains to work her to your manage. Come, we will leave his honour and 70 her together. Go thy ways.

[*Exeunt Bawd, Pandar, and Boult.*]

*Lys.* Now, pretty one, how long have you been at this trade?

*Mar.* What trade, sir?

*Lys.* Why, I cannot name't but I shall offend. 75

*Mar.* I cannot be offended with my trade. Please you to name it.

*Lys.* How long have you been of this profession?

*Mar.* E'er since I can remember.

*Lys.* Did you go to't so young? Were you a 80  
gamester at five or at seven?

*Mar.* Earlier too, sir, if now I be one.

*Lys.* Why, the house you dwell in proclaims you  
to be a creature of sale.

*Mar.* Do you know this house to be a place 85  
of such resort, and will come into't? I hear  
say you are of honourable parts, and are the  
governor of this place.

*Lys.* Why, hath your principal made known  
unto you who I am? 90

*Mar.* Who is my principal?

*Lys.* Why, your herb-woman; she that sets seeds  
and roots of shame and iniquity. O, you have  
heard something of my power, and so stand  
aloof for more serious wooing. But I protest 95  
to thee, pretty one, my authority shall not see  
thee, or else look friendly upon thee. Come,  
bring me to some private place, come, come.

*Mar.* If you were born to honour, show it now;  
If put upon you, make the judgement good 100  
That thought you worthy of it.

*Lys.* How's this? how's this? Some more; be sage.

*Mar.* For me,

That am a maid, though most ungentle fortune  
Have plac'd me in this sty, where, since I came,  
Diseases have been sold dearer than physic, 105  
O, that the gods

Would set me free from this unhallowed place,  
Though they did change me to the meanest bird  
That flies i' the purer air !

*Lys.* I did not think  
Thou couldst have spoke so well; ne'er dream'd  
thou couldst. 110

Had I brought hither a corrupted mind,  
Thy speech had altered it. Hold, here's gold  
for thee.

Persever in that clear way thou goest,  
And the gods strengthen thee !

*Mar.* The good gods persevere you !

For me, be you thoughten 115  
That I came with no ill intent; for to me  
The very doors and windows savour vilely.  
Fare thee well. Thou art a piece of virtue, and  
I doubt not but thy training hath been noble.  
Hold, here's more gold for thee. 120

A curse upon him, die he like a thief,  
That robs thee of thy goodness ! If thou dost  
Hear from me, it shall be for thy good.

*Re-enter Boult.*

*Boult.* I beseech your honour, one piece for  
me. 125

*Lys.* Avaunt, thou damned doorkeeper !  
Your house, but for this virgin that doth prop it,  
Would sink and overwhelm you. Away ! [Exit.]

*Boult.* How's this? We must take another course with you. If your peevish chastity, 130 which is not worth a breakfast in the cheapest country under the cope, shall undo a whole household, let me be gelded like a spaniel. Come your ways.

*Mar.* Whither would you have me? 135

*Boult.* I must have your maidenhead taken off, or the common hangman shall execute it. Come your ways. We'll have no more gentlemen driven away. Come your ways, I say.

*Re-enter Bawd.*

*Bawd.* How now! what's the matter? 140

*Boult.* Worse and worse, mistress; she has here spoken holy words to the Lord Lysimachus.

*Bawd.* O abominable!

*Boult.* He makes our profession as it were to stink afore the face of the gods. 145

*Bawd.* Marry, hang her up for ever!

*Boult.* The nobleman would have dealt with her like a nobleman, and she sent him away as cold as a snowball; saying his prayers too.

*Bawd.* Boult, take her away; use her at thy 150 pleasure. Crack the glass of her virginity, and make the rest malleable.

*Boult.* An if she were a thornier piece of ground than she is, she shall be ploughed.

*Mar.* Hark, hark, you gods !

155

*Bawd.* She conjures ; away with her ! Would she had never come within my doors ! Marry, hang you ! She's born to undo us. Will you not go the way of women-kind ? Marry, come up, my dish of chastity with rosemary and bays ! 160

[Exit.]

*Boult.* Come, mistress ; come your ways with me.

*Mar.* Whither wilt thou have me ?

*Boult.* To take from you the jewel you hold so dear.

165

*Mar.* Prithee, tell me one thing first.

*Boult.* Come now, your one thing.

*Mar.* What canst thou wish thine enemy to be ?

*Boult.* Why, I could wish him to be my master, or rather, my mistress.

170

*Mar.* Neither of these are so bad as thou art, Since they do better thee in their command.

Thou hold'st a place, for which the pained'st fiend

Of hell would not in reputation change.

Thou art the damned doorkeeper to every Coistrel that comes inquiring for his Tib.

To the choleric fisting of every rogue

Thy ear is liable ; thy food is such

As hath been belch'd on by infected lungs.

*Boult.* What would you have me do ? Go to 180

the wars, would you, where a man may serve seven years for the loss of a leg, and have not money enough in the end to buy him a wooden one ?

*Mar.* Do anything but this thou doest. Empty    185  
 Old receptacles, or common sewers, of filth ;  
 Serve by indenture to the common hangman.  
 Any of these ways are yet better than this ;  
 For what thou professest, a baboon, could he speak,

Would own a name too dear. O, that the gods  
 Would safely deliver me from this place !    191

Here, here's gold for thee.

If that thy master would gain by me,  
 Proclaim that I can sing, weave, sew, and dance,  
 With other virtues, which I'll keep from boast ;  
 And I will undertake all these to teach.    196  
 I doubt not but this populous city will  
 Yield many scholars.

*Boult.* But can you teach all this you speak of ?

*Mar.* Prove that I cannot, take me home again,    200  
 And prostitute me to the basest groom  
 That doth frequent your house.

*Boult.* Well, I will see what I can do for thee.

If I can place thee, I will.

*Mar.* But amongst honest women.    205

*Boult.* Faith, my acquaintance lies little amongst  
 them. But since my master and mistress

hath bought you, there's no going but by their consent. Therefore I will make them acquainted with your purpose, and I doubt not 210 but I shall find them tractable enough. Come, I'll do for thee what I can; come your ways.

*Exeunt.*



## ACT FIFTH

*Enter Gower.*

*Gow.* Marina thus the brothel scapes, and chances  
Into an honest house, our story says.  
She sings like one immortal, and she dances  
As goddess-like to her admired lays.  
Deep clerks she dumbs; and with her needl  
composes 5  
Nature's own shape, of bud, bird, branch, or  
berry,  
That even her art sisters the natural roses.  
Her inkle, silk, twin with the rubied cherry,  
That pupils lacks she none of noble race,  
Who pour their bounty on her; and her gain 10  
She gives the cursed bawd. Here we her place;  
And to her father turn our thoughts again,  
Where we left him, on the sea. We there him  
lost;  
Whence, driven before the winds, he is arriv'd  
Here where his daughter dwells; and on this  
coast 15  
Suppose him now at anchor. The city striv'd  
God Neptune's annual feast to keep; from  
whence  
Lysimachus our Tyrian ship espies,

His banners sable, trimm'd with rich expense ;  
And to him in his barge with fervour hies. 20  
In your supposing once more put your sight.  
Of heavy Pericles think this his bark,  
Where what is done in action, more, if might,  
Shall be discover'd. Please you, sit and hark.

*Exit.*

### SCENE I

[*On board Pericles' ship, off Mytilene. A close pavilion on deck, with a curtain before it: Pericles within it, reclined on a couch. A barge lying beside the Tyrian vessel.*]

*Enter two Sailors [one belonging to the Tyrian vessel, the other to the barge]; to them Helicanus.*

[*Tyr.*] *Sail.* [*To the Sailor of Mytilene.*] Where is Lord Helicanus? He can resolve you.

O, here he is.

Sir, there's a barge put off from Mytilene,  
And in it is Lysimachus the governor,  
Who craves to come aboard. What is your will? 5

*Hel.* That he have his. Call up some gentlemen.

[*Tyr.*] *Sail.* Ho, gentlemen! my lord calls.

*Enter two or three Gentlemen.*

1. *Gent.* Doth your lordship call?

*Hel.* Gentlemen, there's some of worth would come  
aboard:

I pray, greet him fairly. 10

[*The Gentlemen and the two Sailors descend, and go on board the barge.*]

*Enter Lysimachus [and Lords; with the Gentlemen and the two Sailors].*

[*Tyr. Sail.*] Sir,

This is the man that can, in aught you would,  
Resolve you.

*Lys.* Hail, reverend sir ! The gods preserve you !

*Hel.* And you, sir, to outlive the age I am, 15  
And die as I would do.

*Lys.* You wish me well.

Being on shore, honouring of Neptune's triumphs,

Seeing this goodly vessel ride before us,  
I made to it, to know of whence you are.

*Hel.* First, what is your place? 20

*Lys.* I am the governor of this place you lie before.

*Hel. Sir.*

Our vessel is of Tyre, in it the King;  
A man who for this three months hath not  
spoken

To any one, nor taken sustenance  
But to prorogue his grief. 25

*Lys.* Upon what ground is his distemperature ?

*Hel.* 'Twould be too tedious to repeat ;

But the main grief springs from the loss  
Of a beloved daughter and a wife. 30

*Lys.* May we not see him ?

*Hel.* You may ;

But bootless is your sight. He will not speak  
To any.

[*Lys.*] Yet let me obtain my wish. 35

[*Hel.*] Behold him. [*Pericles discovered.*] This was a  
goodly person  
Till the disaster that, one mortal night,  
Drove him to this.

*Lys.* Sir King, all hail ! The gods preserve  
you !

Hail, royal sir ! 40

*Hel.* It is in vain ; he will not speak to you.

1. *Lord.* Sir,

We have a maid in Mytilene, I durst wager,  
Would win some words of him.

*Lys.* 'Tis well bethought. 45  
She questionless with her sweet harmony  
And other chosen attractions, would allure,  
And make a battery through his deafen'd  
parts,

Which now are midway stopp'd.

She is all happy as the fairest of all,

And, [with] her fellow maids, [is] now upon 50

The leafy shelter that abuts against  
The island's side.

*[Whispers a Lord, who goes off in the barge  
of Lysimachus.]*

*Hel.* Sure, all's effectless ; yet nothing we'll omit  
That bears recovery's name. But, since your kind-  
ness

We have stretch'd thus far, let us beseech you 55  
That for our gold we may provision have,  
Wherein we are not destitute for want,  
But weary for the staleness.

*Lys.* O, sir, a courtesy  
Which if we should deny, the most just God  
For every graff would send a caterpillar, 60  
And so inflict our province. Yet once more  
Let me entreat to know at large the cause  
Of your king's sorrow.

*Hel.* Sit, sir, I will recount it to you.  
But, see, I am prevented.

*[Re-enter, from the barge, Lord, with Marina, and a  
young Lady.]*

*Lys.* O, here's  
The lady that I sent for. Welcome, fair one ! 65  
— Is't not a goodly presence ?

*Hel.* She's a gallant lady.

*Lys.* She's such a one, that, were I well assur'd  
Came of a gentle kind and noble stock,

I'd wish no better choice, and think me rarely wed.  
 Fair one, all goodness that consists in bounty 70  
 Expect even here, where is a kingly patient.  
 If that thy prosperous and artificial feat  
 Can draw him but to answer thee in aught,  
 Thy sacred physic shall receive such pay  
 As thy desires can wish.

*Mar.* Sir, I will use 75

My utmost skill in his recovery,  
 Provided  
 That none but I and my companion maid  
 Be suffered to come near him.

*Lys.* Come, let us leave her ;

And the gods make her prosperous ! 80

*Marina sings.*

*Lys.* Mark'd he your music ?

*Mar.* No, nor look'd on us.

*Lys.* See, she will speak to him.

*Mar.* Hail, sir ! my lord, lend ear.

*Per.* Hum, ha ! [Pushing her back.]

*Mar.* I am a maid, 85

My lord, that ne'er before invited eyes,  
 But have been gaz'd on like a comet. She speaks,  
 My lord, that, may be, hath endur'd a grief  
 Might equal yours, if both were justly weigh'd.  
 Though wayward fortune did malign my state, 90  
 My derivation was from ancestors  
 Who stood equivalent with mighty kings ;

But time hath rooted out my parentage,  
And to the world and awkward casualties  
Bound me in servitude. [Aside.] I will desist ; 95  
But there is something glows upon my cheek,  
And whispers in mine ear, "Go not till he speak."

*Per.* My fortunes — parentage — good parentage —  
To equal mine ! Was it not thus ? What say you ?

*Mar.* I said, my lord, if you did know my parentage, 100  
You would not do me violence.

*Per.* I do think so. Pray you, turn your eyes upon me.  
You are like something that — What country-  
woman ?

Here of these shores ?

*Mar.* No, nor of any shores ;  
Yet I was mortally brought forth, and am 105  
No other than I appear.

*Per.* I am great with woe, and shall deliver weeping.  
My dearest wife was like this maid, and such a one  
My daughter might have been. My queen's square  
brows ;

Her stature to an inch ; as wand-like straight ; 110  
As silver-voic'd ; her eyes as jewel-like  
And cas'd as richly ; in pace another Juno ;  
Who starves the ears she feeds, and makes them  
hungry,

The more she gives them speech. Where do you live ?

*Mar.* Where I am but a stranger. From the deck, 115  
You may discern the place.

*Per.* Where were you bred?

And how achiev'd you these endowments, which  
You make more rich to owe?

*Mar.* If I should tell my history, it would seem  
Like lies disdain'd in the reporting.

*Per.* Prithee, speak.  
Falseness cannot come from thee; for thou  
look'st

121

Modest as Justice, and thou seem'st a palace  
For the crown'd Truth to dwell in. I will believe  
thee,

And make [my] senses credit thy relation  
To points that seem impossible; for thou look'st  
Like one I lov'd indeed. What were thy friends?  
Didst thou not say, when I did push thee back —  
Which was when I perceiv'd thee — that thou cam'st  
From good descending?

*Mar.* So indeed I did.

*Per.* Report thy parentage. I think thou said'st 130  
Thou hadst been toss'd from wrong to injury,  
And that thou thought'st thy griefs might equal  
mine,

If both were opened.

*Mar.* Some such thing  
I said, and said no more but what my thoughts  
Did warrant me was likely.

*Per.* Tell thy story; 135  
If thine considered prove the thousandth part

Of my endurance, thou art a man, and I  
Have suffered like a girl. Yet thou dost look  
Like Patience gazing on kings' graves, and smiling  
Extremity out of act. What were thy friends ? 140  
How lost thou [them ?] Thy name, my most kind  
virgin ?

Recount, I do beseech thee. Come, sit by me.

*Mar.* My name is Marina.

*Per.* O, I am mock'd,  
And thou by some incensed god sent hither  
To make the world to laugh at me.

*Mar.* Patience, good sir,  
Or here I'll cease.

*Per.* Nay, I'll be patient. 146  
Thou little know'st how thou dost startle me,  
To call thyself Marina.

*Mar.* The name  
Was given me by one that had some power, 150  
My father, and a king.

*Per.* How ! a king's daughter ?  
And call'd Marina ?

*Mar.* You said you would believe me ;  
But, not to be a troubler of your peace,  
I will end here.

*Per.* But are you flesh and blood ?  
Have you a working pulse, and are no fairy ? 155  
Motion ? Well ; speak on. Where were you born ?  
And wherefore call'd Marina ?

*Mar.*

Call'd Marina

For I was born at sea.

*Per.*

At sea ! What mother ?

*Mar.* My mother was the daughter of a king,

Who died the minute I was born,

160

As my good nurse Lychorida hath oft

Delivered weeping.

*Per.*

O, stop there a little !

[Aside.] This is the rarest dream that e'er dull sleep

Did mock sad fools withal. This cannot be ;

My daughter's buried. Well, where were you  
bred ?

165

I'll hear you more, to the bottom of your story,

And never interrupt you.

*Mar.* You scorn. Believe me, 'twere best I did  
give o'er.*Per.* I will believe you by the syllable

Of what you shall deliver. Yet, give me leave, 170

How came you in these parts ? Where were you  
bred ?*Mar.* The King my father did in Tarsus leave me ;  
Till cruel Cleon, with his wicked wife,  
Did seek to murder me ; and having wooed  
A villain to attempt it, who having drawn to do't, 175  
A crew of pirates came and rescued me ;  
Brought me to Mytilene. But, good sir,  
Whither will you have me ? Why do you weep ?

It may be,

You think me an impostor. No, good faith ;  
 I am the daughter to King Pericles,      180  
 If good King Pericles be.

[Per.] Ho, Helicanus !

*Hel.* Calls my lord ?

*Per.* Thou art a grave and noble counsellor,  
 Most wise in general ; tell me, if thou canst,      185  
 What this maid is, or what is like to be,  
 That thus hath made me weep ?

*Hel.*      I know not ; but  
 Here is the regent, sir, of Mytilene  
 Speaks nobly of her.

*Lys.*      She never would tell  
 Her parentage. Being demanded that,      190  
 She would sit still and weep.

*Per.* O Helicanus, strike me, honoured sir ;  
 Give me a gash, put me to present pain ;  
 Lest this great sea of joys rushing upon me  
 O'erbear the shores of my mortality,      195  
 And drown me with their sweetness. O, come hither,  
 Thou that beget'st him that did thee beget ;  
 Thou that wast born at sea, buried at Tarsus,  
 And found at sea again ! O Helicanus,  
 Down on thy knees, thank the holy gods as loud  
 As thunder threatens us. This is Marina.      201  
 What was thy mother's name ? Tell me but that,  
 For truth can never be confirm'd enough,  
 Though doubts did ever sleep.

*Mar.*

First, sir, I pray,

What is your title?

205

*Per.* I am Pericles of Tyre ; but tell me now

My drown'd queen's name, as in the rest you said

Thou hast been godlike perfect,

The heir of kingdoms and another like

To Pericles thy father.

210

*Mar.* Is it no more to be your daughter than

To say my mother's name was Thaisa ?

Thaisa was my mother, who did end

The minute I began.

214

*Per.* Now, blessing on thee ! Rise, thou art my child.

Give me fresh garments. Mine own, Helicanus ;

She is not dead at Tarsus, as she should have  
been,

By savage Cleon. She shall tell thee all ;

When thou shalt kneel, and justify in knowledge

She is thy very princess. Who is this ?

220

*Hel.* Sir, 'tis the governor of Mytilene,

Who, hearing of your melancholy state,

Did come to see you.

*Per.*

I embrace you.

Give me my robes. I am wild in my beholding.

O heavens bless my girl ! But, hark, what music ?

Tell Helicanus, my Marina, tell him

226

O'er, point by point, for yet he seems to doubt,

How sure you are my daughter. But, what  
music ?

*Hel.* My lord, I hear none.

*Per.* None !

230

The music of the spheres ! List, my Marina.

*Lys.* It is not good to cross him ; give him way.

*Per.* Rarest sounds ! Do ye not hear ?

*Lys.* Music, my lord ? I hear.

*Per.* Most heavenly music !

It nips me unto listening, and thick slumber 235

Hangs upon mine eyes. Let me rest. [Sleeps.]

*Lys.* A pillow for his head.

So, leave him all. Well, my companion friends,

If this but answer to my just belief,

I'll well remember you.

240

[*Exeunt all but Pericles.*]

*Diana* [appears to *Pericles* as in a vision].

*Dia.* My temple stands in Ephesus ; hie thee thither,  
And do upon mine altar sacrifice.

There, when my maiden priests are met together,  
Before the people all,

Reveal how thou at sea didst lose thy wife. 245

To mourn thy crosses, with thy daughter's, call

And give them repetition to the life.

Or perform my bidding, or thou liv'st in woe ;

Do it, and happy, by my silver bow.

Awake, and tell thy dream.

[*Disappears.*]

*Per.* Celestial Dian, goddess argentine,

251

I will obey thee. Helicanus !

[*Re-enter Helicanus, Lysimachus, and Marina.*]

*Hel.*

Sir ?

*Per.* My purpose was for Tarsus, there to strike  
The inhospitable Cleon ; but I am  
For other service first. Toward Ephesus 255  
Turn our blown sails ; eftsoons I'll tell thee why.  
[To *Lysimachus*.] Shall we refresh us, sir, upon your  
shore,

And give you gold for such provision  
As our intents will need ?

*Lys.* Sir,

260

With all my heart ; and, when you come ashore,  
I have another suit.

*Per.*

You shall prevail,

Were it to woo my daughter ; for it seems  
You have been noble towards her.

*Lys.*

Sir, lend me your arm.

*Per.* Come, my Marina.

*Exeunt.*

## SCENE II

[*Enter Gower, before the temple of Diana at Ephesus.*]

*Gow.* Now our sands are almost run ;  
More a little, and then dumb.  
This, my last boon, give me,  
For such kindness must relieve me,  
That you aptly will suppose 5

What pageantry, what feats, what shows,  
 What minstrelsy, and pretty din,  
 The regent made in Mytilene  
 To greet the King. So he thrived,  
 That he is promis'd to be wived      10  
 To fair Marina, but in no wise  
 Till he had done his sacrifice,  
 As Dian bade ; whereto being bound,  
 The interim, pray you, all confound.  
 In feather'd briefness sails are fill'd,      15  
 And wishes fall out as they're will'd.  
 At Ephesus the temple see,  
 Our king and all his company.  
 That he can hither come so soon,      19  
 Is by your fancy's thankful doom.  
 [Exit.]

## SCENE III

[*The temple of Diana at Ephesus ; Thaisa standing near the altar, as high priestess ; a number of Virgins on each side ; Cerimon and other Inhabitants of Ephesus attending.*

*Enter Pericles, with his train : Lysimachus, Helicanus, Marina, and a Lady.]*

*Per.* Hail, Dian ! to perform thy just command,  
 I here confess myself the King of Tyre ;  
 Who, frightened from my country, did wed

At Pentapolis the fair Thaisa.

At sea in childbed died she, but brought forth 5  
 A maid-child call'd Marina ; who, O goddess,  
 Wears yet thy silver livery. She at Tarsus  
 Was nurs'd with Cleon ; who at fourteen years  
 He sought to murder ; but her better stars  
 Brought her to Mytilene, 'gainst whose shore 10  
 Riding, her fortunes brought the maid aboard us,  
 Where, by her own most clear remembrance, she  
 Made known herself my daughter.

*Thai.* Voice and favour !

You are, you are — O royal Pericles ! [Faints.]

*Per.* What means the nun ? She dies ! Help, gentlemen ! 15

*Cer.* Noble sir,  
 If you have told Diana's altar true,  
 This is your wife.

*Per.* Reverend appearer, no.  
 I threw her overboard with these very arms.

*Cer.* Upon this coast, I warrant you.

*Per.* 'Tis most certain.

*Cer.* Look to the lady ; O, she's but overjoy'd. 21  
 Early in blustering morn this lady was  
 Thrown upon this shore. I op'd the coffin,  
 Found there rich jewels ; recovered her, and plac'd  
 her

Here in Diana's temple.

*Per.* May we see them ? 25

*Cer.* Great sir, they shall be brought you to my house,  
Whither I invite you. Look, Thaisa is  
Recovered.

*Thai.* O, let me look !

If he be none of mine, my sanctity  
Will to my sense bend no licentious ear, 30  
But curb it, spite of seeing. O, my lord,  
Are you not Pericles ? Like him you spake,  
Like him you are ! Did you not name a tempest,  
A birth, and death ?

## Per. The voice of dead Thaisa !

Thai. That Thaisa am I, supposed dead  
And drown'd.

Per. Immortal Dian !

*Thai.* Now I know you better.

When we with tears parted Pentapolis,  
The King my father gave you such a ring.  
[Shows a ring.]

*Per.* This, this. No more, you gods ! Your present  
kindness 40

Makes my past miseries sports. You shall do well,  
That on the touching of her lips I may  
Melt and no more be seen. O, come, be buried  
A second time within these arms.

*Mar.* My heart  
Leaps to be gone into my mother's bosom. 45  
[Kneels to Thaisa.]

*Per.* Look, who kneels here ! Flesh of thy flesh, Thaisa ;

Thy burden at the sea, and call'd Marina  
For she was yielded there.

*Thai.* Blest, and mine own !

*Hel.* Hail, madam, and my queen !

*Thai.* I know you not.

*Per.* You have heard me say, when I did fly from  
Tyre, 50

I left behind an ancient substitute.

Can you remember what I call'd the man ?

I have nam'd him oft.

*Thai.* 'Twas Helicanus then.

*Per.* Still confirmation !

Embrace him, dear Thaisa ; this is he. 55

Now do I long to hear how you were found,  
How possibly preserv'd, and who to thank,  
Besides the gods, for this great miracle.

*Thai.* Lord Cerimon, my lord ; this man,  
Through whom the gods have shown their power ;  
that can 60  
From first to last resolve you.

*Per.* Reverend sir,  
The gods can have no mortal officer  
More like a god than you. Will you deliver  
How this dead queen re-lives ?

*Cer.* I will, my lord.  
Beseech you, first go with me to my house, 65  
Where shall be shown you all was found with  
her,

How she came plac'd here in the temple ;  
No needful thing omitted.

*Per.* Pure Dian, bless thee for thy vision ! I  
Will offer night-oblations to thee.    Thaisa,      70  
This prince, the fair-betrothed of your daughter,  
Shall marry her at Pentapolis.    And now,  
This ornament  
Makes me look dismal will I clip to form :  
And what this fourteen years no razor touch'd, 75  
To grace thy marriage-day, I'll beautify.

*Thai.* Lord Cerimon hath letters of good credit, sir,  
My father's dead.

*Per.* Heavens make a star of him ! Yet there, my  
queen,  
We'll celebrate their nuptials, and ourselves      80  
Will in that kingdom spend our following days.  
Our son and daughter shall in Tyrus reign.  
Lord Cerimon, we do our longing stay  
To hear the rest untold.    Sir, lead's the way.

[*Exeunt.*]

[*Enter Gower.*]

*Gow.* In Antiochus and his daughter you have heard 85  
Of monstrous lust the due and just reward.  
In Pericles, his queen and daughter, seen,  
Although assail'd with fortune fierce and keen,  
Virtue preserv'd from fell destruction's blast,  
Led on by heaven, and crown'd with joy at last. 90

In Helicanus may you well descriy  
A figure of truth, of faith, of loyalty.  
In reverend Cerimon there well appears  
The worth that learned charity aye wears.  
For wicked Cleon and his wife, when fame 95  
Had spread their cursed deed, and honour'd name  
Of Pericles, to rage the city turn,  
That him and his they in his palace burn ;  
The gods for murder seemed so content  
To punish them ; although not done, but meant.  
So, on your patience evermore attending, 101  
New joy wait on you ! Here our play has ending.

[*Exit.*]





## Notes

Neither acts nor scenes were indicated in the Qq. F<sub>3</sub> omits scenes but gives five acts. They do not correspond, however, to the five divisions now adopted. The list of *Dramatis Personæ* was first given in F<sub>3</sub> and was completed and corrected by Rowe and Malone.

I. Chor. 10. *Et bonum*, etc. The older a good thing becomes, the better. A common saying, usually, however, with *communius* for *antiquius*.

I. Chor. 29–30. The meaning of these lines is clear but the syntax hopelessly mixed. Malone substituted *By custom* for *But custom*. A change of *Was* to *Had* would equally improve the construction.

I. Chor. 40. *As yon grim looks do testify*. See bracketed note of place at beginning of Act I. Gower says:

“And thus ther weren manye ded,  
Here hevedes stondende on the gate.”

I. i. 59, 60. *Of all (who have es-) 'sayed yet*. The omission of the relative is especially characteristic of *Pericles*. Cf. I. 14, above.

I. i. 73. *That gives*. For an attempted explanation of these violations of concord in Shakespeare, see “Shakespeare's Present Indicative s- Endings with Plural Subjects” (*Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*, vol. XI, 1896) and Franz's *Shakespeare-Grammatik* (1909), §§ 671–680.

I. i. 96. **For vice repeated.** The publisher of vicious actions is like the wind which, etc. Pericles is trying to show the danger that a man incurs who informs on princes. He continues the same thought in the figure of the mole.

I. i. 132-133. **who . . . yet they poison breed.** Of course *they* should be omitted, but the construction survives in modern writers. Cf. *it* in l. 106, above.

I. ii. 44. **Signior Sooth.** Mr. Flattering Assent. Cf. "Sir Smile, his neighbour," in *The Winter's Tale*, I. ii. 196.

I. ii. 73-74. It is possible that a line has been omitted, but an understood *which* referring to *issue* makes the meaning clear.

I. ii. 122. **our orbs.** Our respective spheres.

I. ii. 123-124. That time shall never refute this truth in regard to both of us, viz., that thou didst show the glory of a true subject, I of a true prince.

I. iii. 4. **a wise fellow.** The incident was found by Steevens in Barnabe Riche's *Souldier's Wishe to Briton's Welfare*, 1604. The wise fellow was the poet Philipides, the king, Lисимахус.

I. iv. 5. **digs.** Removes by digging.

I. iv. 63-64. Cf. *Hamlet*, IV. v. 78-79, and IV. vii. 164-165.

I. iv. 71. **the least fear.** Very little to be feared.

I. iv. 74. **like him's untutor'd.** Like him who is untutored, has never learned the maxim.

II. **Enter Gower.** Note the Middle English forms in this chorus: *I wis* (*iwis*) = to be sure; *speken* = speak; *to killen* = to kill; *been* = are; *perishen* = perish; *ne* = nor. In fact the dramatist seems to have exhausted his stock of Middle English in these lines. It is needless to

say that such a lawless mixture of Middle and Modern English as this chorus contains was never in use at any period in the history of our language.

II. Chor. 2-3. Probably two lines have dropped out here.

II. Chor. 40. this longs the text. This belongs not to the chorus but to the text proper.

II. i. 5. seas hath. *Hath* and *doth* are used with plural subjects in Elizabethan English more often than any other verbs.

II. i. 58, 59. No one has been able to find a satisfactory sense here.

II. i. 120, 121. And what a man cannot otherwise get, he may at least lawfully try for, as for example, a wife's love. *Soul* in the sense of love is found elsewhere in Shakespeare. Cf. *The Tempest*, III. i. 44; *Measure for Measure*, I. i. 18; *Midsummer-Night's Dream*, I. i. 108; *Merchant of Venice*, V. i. 19.

II. ii. 4. Return them. Say to them.

II. ii. 21. *Lux tua*, etc. Thy light is my life.

II. ii. 27. *Piu por*, etc. Translated by Wilkins: "More by lenity than by force." If *Piu* were *Mas*, the whole motto would be Spanish.

II. ii. 30. *Me pompæ*, etc. Translated by Wilkins: "The desire of renown drew him to this enterprise."

II. ii. 33. *Quod me alit*, etc. Translated by Wilkins: "That which gives me life gives me death."

II. ii. 38. *Sic spectanda fides*. Translated by Wilkins: "So faith is to be looked into."

II. ii. 44. *In hac spe vivo*. "In this hope I live."

II. ii. 56-57. Unless outward and inward have changed

places in this awkward passage, *The outward habit by means by the outward habit*; just as *it stands me much upon* (*Richard III*, IV. ii. 59) means "it stands much upon me." Cf. also *Merchant of Venice*, II. ix. 26.

II. iii. 29, 36, 64. marriage . . . diamond . . . entrance. To be pronounced in three syllables.

II. iv. 31. be resolv'd. Obtain assurance, be satisfied. So *Resolve* (II. v. 68) means assure, satisfy.

II. iv. 43. into the seas. Into the cares and responsibilities of sovereignty.

II. v. 17. to view. The emergence of *to* is due to the distance from *will* (*she'll*). Cf. "I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than *to* dwell in the tents of wickedness forever" (*Psalms*, 84: 10). See other examples in *Modern Language Notes*, vol. xxiii, No. 1 (January, 1908).

II. v. 60. relish'd of. Cf. *Macbeth* (I. ii. 44): "They *smack of honour* both." The two phrases mean the same.

III. i. 26. Use honour with you. Are entitled to equal honour with you. For *Use* Mason conjectured *Vie*.

III. i. 35. than can thy portage quit. Than can thy safe arrival at the port of life requite.

III. i. 59. Forgot. Had no consideration.

III. i. 62-63. Where, for . . . aye-remaining lamps. Where, instead of the ever-burning lamps in a vault — a reference to a Roman custom.

III. ii. 67. perfect me, etc. Enable me to understand the writing fully.

III. ii. 87. Well said. Well done.

III. ii. 103. Doth. See note on II. i. 5.

III. ii. 112. is mortal. Would be fatal.

IV. 32. **the dove of Paphos.** The dove and the swan were sacred to Venus, and among her favorite resorts were Paphos, Cnidos, and Amathus.

IV. i. 11. **her only mistress'.** This must mean Lychorida's, unless the passage is corrupt. Nicholson emends to *nurse's*.

IV. i. 23. An allusion to the belief that each sigh cost a drop of blood.

IV. i. 52-65. This sweet, irresponsible, unheeding prattle about birth when the attendant is revolving Marina's foul murder is genuinely Shakespearean.

IV. ii. 17. **to eleven.** To the age of eleven.

IV. ii. 47. **I have gone through.** I have done my best, bargained successfully.

IV. ii. 53. **necessity.** Requirement that she cannot meet.

IV. ii. 113. **the French knight,** etc. Cf. *Romeo and Juliet* (II. iv. 56-57): "Such a case as yours constrains a man to bow in the hams."

IV. ii. 122. **crowns.** The usual pun on the coin and the so-called "French disease."

IV. ii. 154. **thunder shall not,** etc. John Marston (*Scourge of Villainy*, II. vii. 78-80) writes:

They are nought but eels, that never will appear  
Till that tempestuous winds, or thunder, tear  
Their slimy beds.

IV. iii. 8, 9. **Justly to be regarded as the equal of any earthly sovereign.**

IV. iii. 18. **for an honest attribute.** For the sake of being accounted honest.

IV. iii. 49, 50. **Do swear to the gods,** etc. You are like

one who is so humane that he cannot ascribe to the gods even the death of flies, but blames it on winter.

IV. iv. 2. **have an** wish but for't. If we but wish it. See Textual Variants.

IV. iv. 18, 19. think his pilot thought, etc. Imagine thought to be his pilot; then your own thoughts will keep pace with him.

IV. iv. 30. mortal vessel. Body.

IV. iv. 39. Thetis, being proud. Thetis, the sea, proud because in her element Marina was born, washed away in storm a part of the shore.

IV. iv. 47. bear his courses. Allow his plans.

IV. vi. 99-101. Compare the fine Saxon thrust of these lines with the Latinized weakness of Wilkins's novel: "If the eminence of your place came unto you by dissent, and the royalty of your blood, let not your life proove your birth a bastard: If it were throwne upon you by opinion, make good that opinion was the cause to make you great."

IV. vi. 160. rosemary and bays. Used for garnishing. She implies that Marina is ostentatious in her chastity.

V. Chor. 21. In your supposing, etc. Let your imagination be your eyes.

V. i. 49. She is so fortunate as to be fairest.

V. i. 72. prosperous and artificial feat. Effective and artistic performance. Cf. *A Midsummer-Night's Dream* (III. ii. 203):

We, Hermia, like two *artificial* gods,  
Have with our needles created both one flower,

where *artificial* plainly means nothing more than *artistic* or *skilled in art*.

V. i. 118. **more rich to owe.** More rich by owning. This use of the infinitive was far commoner in Shakespeare's time than now.

V. i. 139. **Like Patience.** Cf. *Twelfth Night*, II. iv. 117. **smiling extremity out of act.** *Disarming calamity* (Malone).

V. i. 207-210. These lines have been the happy hunting ground of exegetes. Taking the text as it stands — and it is supported by all the Qq and Ff — we may extract at least *a* meaning from it: as in the rest of your account you have been absolutely accurate, and have spoken like a princess worthy of your father Pericles. But the text is almost certainly corrupt.

V. i. 217. **as she should have been.** As she was said to have been. This use of *should* in the sense of German *sollte* occurs nowhere else in Shakespeare.

V. i. 219. **When.** And then.

V. ii. 15. **feather'd briefness.** Winged speed.

V. iii. 73. **This ornament.** His beard. Cf. *Much Ado about Nothing* (III. ii. 45-47): “No, but the barber's man hath been seen with him, and the old ornament of his cheek hath already stuffed tennis-balls.”



## Textual Variants

The text in this edition is based upon the first Quarto, and the following list records the more important variations from that version. Ff indicates F<sub>3</sub> (second impression) and F<sub>4</sub>.

I. i. 6. Bring] Malone; *Musicke* bring Qq Ff.  
56. *Ant.*] Malone; Qq Ff *print* (*Antilochus*), as a *vocative*, and continue *ll.* 56–58 to *Pericles*.  
136. shun] Malone; shew Qq Ff.  
ii. 3. Be my] Dyce; By me Qq Ff.  
25. ostent] Tyrwhitt *conj.*; stint Qq Ff.  
30. Who am] Farmer *conj.*; Who once Qq Ff.  
41. blast] Mason *conj.*; spark Qq Ff.  
86. doubt it] Malone; doo't Qq; think Ff.  
iv. 17. helps] Malone; helpers Qq Ff.  
39. two summers] Mason; too sauers Qq; to savers Ff.  
42. nuzle] Steevens; nouzell Qq; nouzle Ff.  
67. Hath] Rowe; That Qq Ff.  
74. like him's] Malone; like himnes Qq; like hymnes Ff.

II. Chor. 7. troubles reign,] Qq Ff; trouble's reign Deighton.  
12. speken] White; spoken Qq Ff.  
22. Sends word] Steevens *conj.*; Sav'd one Qq Ff.  
i. 12. ho, pilch] Malone; to pelch Qq Ff.  
135. thee from! — may't] Staunton; thee, Fame may Qq Ff.  
161. rapture] Rowe; rupture Qq Ff.  
171. but equal] Staunton; but a Goal Qq Ff.

ii. 14. interpret] Schmidt; entertain Qq Ff; explain Steevens *conj.*

III. i. 7. Thou] Malone; then Qq Ff.  
 11. midwife] Malone; my wife Qq Ff.  
 52. custom] Boswell; eastern Qq Ff.  
 63. aye-remaining] Malone; ayre remaining Qq Ff.

ii. 48. time shall ne'er decay] Staunton; time shall never Q<sub>1-3</sub>; never shall decay Q<sub>4-6</sub>; Ff; time shall never raze Dyce.  
 90. vial] Q<sub>4-6</sub> Ff; Violl Q<sub>1-3</sub>.

iii. 7. wanderingly] Steevens; wondringly Qq Ff; woundingly Schmidt.  
 30. ill] Dyce; will Qq Ff.

IV. Chor. 4. there as] Clark and Wright; there's Qq Ff.

i. 5. inflaming love i' thy bosom, Inflame] Knight; in flaming, thy love bosom, Inflame Q<sub>1</sub>; inflaming thy love bosom Inflame Ff. Deighton *emends thus*: or flaming love thy bosom enslave.  
 27. Near . . . margent] ere the sea mar it Qq Ff; on the sea-margent Hudson.  
 79. Aye, trod] Nicholson *conj.*; I trod. Qq Ff; nor trod Daniel *conj.*

iii. 27. prime] Dyce; prince Q<sub>1-3</sub>; whole Ff.  
 28. sources] Dyce; courses Qq Ff.

iv. 2. an] Dyce; and Qq Ff.  
 13. along. Behind] Daniel; along behind Qq Ff.

iv. 18. his pilot] Malone; this Pilate Qq Ff.

V. i. 50. And, [with] her fellow maids, [is] now upon] Malone and Steevens; and her fellow maids, now upon Qq Ff. *Ll. 1-64 of this scene are written as prose in Qq Ff.*

i. 70. Fair one, all] Malone; Faire on all Qq; Fair and all Ff.

104. shores ?] Malone; shewes ? Qq Ff.

141. them ? Thy] Malone; thy Qq Ff.

227. doubt] Malone; doat Qq Ff.

247. life] Malone; like Qq Ff.

iii. 15. nun ?] Collier; mum ? Qq; the woman ? Ff.



## Glossary

'a, he; II. i. 33.

absolute, peerless; IV. Chor. 31.

abuse, deceive; I. ii. 38.

address'd, prepared; II. iii. 94.

an, if; III. i. 45.

artificial, artistic; V. i. 72.

as, as if; I. i. 16.

assume, enter; I. i. 61.

attent, attentive; III. Chor. 11.

awful, devout, conscientious; II. Chor. 4.

awkward, adverse; V. i. 94.

**bases**, an embroidered mantle, which hung down from the middle to the knees or lower, worn by knights on horseback; II. i. 167.

bated, docked; IV. ii. 35.

been, are; II. Chor. 28.

bitumed, made water-tight with pitch; III. i. 72.

blurted at, scorned; IV. iii. 34.

bolins, bowlines; III. i. 43.

boots, profits; I. ii. 20.

bots on't, a comic execration, *bots* being the worms that breed in horses; II. i. 124.

brace, armor for the arm; II. i. 133.

braid, reproach; I. i. 93.

breathing, exercise; II. iii. 101.

can, did; III. Chor. 36.

careful, that took care of me; I. ii. 80.

cast, vomit (punningly); II. i. 61.

cates, dainties; II. iii. 29.  
censure, judgment; II. iv. 34.  
cheapen, offer to buy; IV. vi. 10.  
chequin, a gold coin of Venice, worth about two dollars; IV. ii. 28.  
coign, angle; III. Chor. 17.  
coistrel, base fellow; IV. vi. 176.  
conceit, ability to think; III. i. 16.  
condolements, blunder for *doles*; II. i. 157.  
confound, consume; V. ii. 14.  
consist, insist; I. iv. 83.  
conversation, human intercourse; II. Chor. 9.  
convince, refute; I. ii. 123.  
cope, heavens; IV. vi. 132.  
copp'd, pointed; I. i. 101.  
creatures, created things; I. iv. 36.  
curious, nice, elegant; I. iv. 43.

darks, deprives of all brilliance; IV. Chor. 35.  
date, limit of life; III. iv. 14.  
deliver, report; V. i. 162; V. iii. 63.  
dern, secret, solitary; III. Chor. 15.  
difference, variety; IV. ii. 85.  
discovered, revealed; V. i. 35, s.d.  
distemperature, disorder; V. i. 27.  
doit, small coin; IV. ii. 55.  
dole, suffering; III. Chor. 42.  
doom, judgment; III. 32.  
doubt, suspect; I. ii. 85.  
dropping, dripping; IV. i. 63.  
dumb, make dumb; V. Chor. 5.

eaning time, time of delivery; III. iv. 6.  
eche, enlarge; III. Chor. 13.

**eftsoons**, presently; V. i. 256.  
**ember-eves**, eves of fast-days; I. Chor. 6.  
**entertain**, entertainment; I. i. 119.  
**eyne**, eyes; III. Chor. 5.

**fact**, deed; IV. iii. 12.  
**favour**, appearance; IV. i. 24.  
**fere**, mate; I. Chor. 21.  
**fisting**, blow of the fist; IV. vi. 177.  
**fitment**, fit service; IV. vi. 7.  
**flap-jacks**, pancakes; II. i. 86.  
**flaw**, blast; III. i. 39.  
**for**, instead of; III. i. 62.  
**forbear**, bear; II. iv. 46.  
**frame**, go; I. Chor. 32.  
**full**, perfectly beautiful; I. Chor. 23.

**give**, make; II. Chor. 38.  
**gloze**, use flattery; I. i. 110.  
**graff**, graft; V. i. 60.  
**green-sickness**, anaemia in young girls; squeamishness; IV. vi. 14.  
**greet**, gratify; IV. iii. 38.  
**grief**, grievance; II. iv. 23, 25.  
**grisled**, terrible; III. Chor. 47.

**hatch'd**, closed; IV. ii. 37.  
**heap**, body; I. i. 33.  
**Hesperides**, properly, daughters of Hesperus, but used here for the garden with the trees that bore golden fruit; I. i. 27.  
**hight**, called; IV. Chor. 18.  
**husbandry**, thrifty habit (here, of rising early); III. ii. 20.

**inflict**, afflict; V. i. 61.

**inkle**, tape; V. Chor. 8.

**I wis** (ywis), certainly; II. Chor. 2.

**jetted**, strutted; I. iv. 26.

**kept**, lodged; II. i. 136.

**la**, an emphatic exclamation; IV. i. 77.

**labour'd**, produced by careful labor; II. iii. 16.

**lien**, lain; III. ii. 85.

**light**, alighted; IV. ii. 77.

**litigious**, disturbed by disputes.

**longs**, belongs to; II. Chor. 40.

**lown**, base fellow; IV. vi. 19.

**Lucina**, goddess of child-birth; I. i. 8.

**malign**, treat maliciously; V. i. 90.

**malkin**, diminutive of Moll, used contemptuously of a wench; IV. iii. 34.

**manage**, government (of a horse); IV. vi. 70.

**marry**, a corruption of the oath by the Virgin Mary; IV. vi. 157.

**mask'd**, hiding his treacherous nature; III. iii. 36.

**measures**, stately dances; II. iii. 104.

**mere**, entire, substantial; IV. ii. 132.

**mischief**, misery; I. iv. 8.

**move**, anger; II. iii. 71.

**neeld**, needle; V. Chor. 5.

**neglection**, neglect; III. iii. 20.

**nill**, will not; III. Chor. 55.

**nips**, attracts, lures; V. i. 235.

**nuzzle**, nurse, cherish; I. iv. 42.

**offer**, attempt; IV. ii. 116.

**old**, of old; I. Chor. 1.

**ostent**, display; I. ii. 25.

**pained'st**, suffering most; IV. vi. 173.

**partake**, impart; I. i. 152.

**parted**, departed from; V. iii. 38.

**passion**, emotion, here grief; IV. iv. 22, s.d., 24.

**perch**, rod; III. Chor. 15.

**plain**, explain; III. Chor. 14.

**pooped**, foundered, destroyed; IV. ii. 25.

**portage**, arrival at port; III. i. 35.

**power**, armed forces; I. iv. 67.

**prefer**, present; II. ii. 17.

**pregnant**, ready; IV. Chor. 44.

**present**, immediate; IV. ii. 136.

**prest**, prepared; IV. Chor. 45.

**principals**, main timbers; III. ii. 16.

**prorogue**, prolong; V. i. 26.

**purchase**, profit, gain; I. Chor. 9.

**quit**, requite; III. i. 35.

**rapture**, violent seizure; II. i. 161.

**recollect**, gather; II. i. 54.

**record**, sing; IV. Chor. 27.

**resist**, repel; II. iii. 29.

**resolve**, give definite information; V. i. 1.

**ride out**, survive; IV. iv. 31.

**rout**, crowd; III. Chor. 1.

**shine**, honor, glory; I. ii. 124.

**sleided**, unwrought; IV. Chor. 21.

**smooth**, flatter; I. ii. 78.

speeding, success; II. iii. 116.  
 standing-bowl, goblet with a foot; II. iii. 65.  
 stead, promote; III. Chor. 21.  
 still, ever; III. i. 52.  
 subject, population; II. i. 52.  
 suddenly, quickly; III. i. 70.

target, shield, armor; II. i. 142.  
 thoughten, of the opinion; IV. vi. 115.  
 throng'd, shrivelled; II. i. 77.  
 thwarting, crossing; IV. iv. 10.  
 Tib, low term for a base woman; IV. vi. 176.  
 tire, attire; III. ii. 22.  
 to-bless, bless (intensive); IV. vi. 23.  
 topped, lopped; I. iv. 9.  
 triumph, procession, tournament; II. ii. 1.

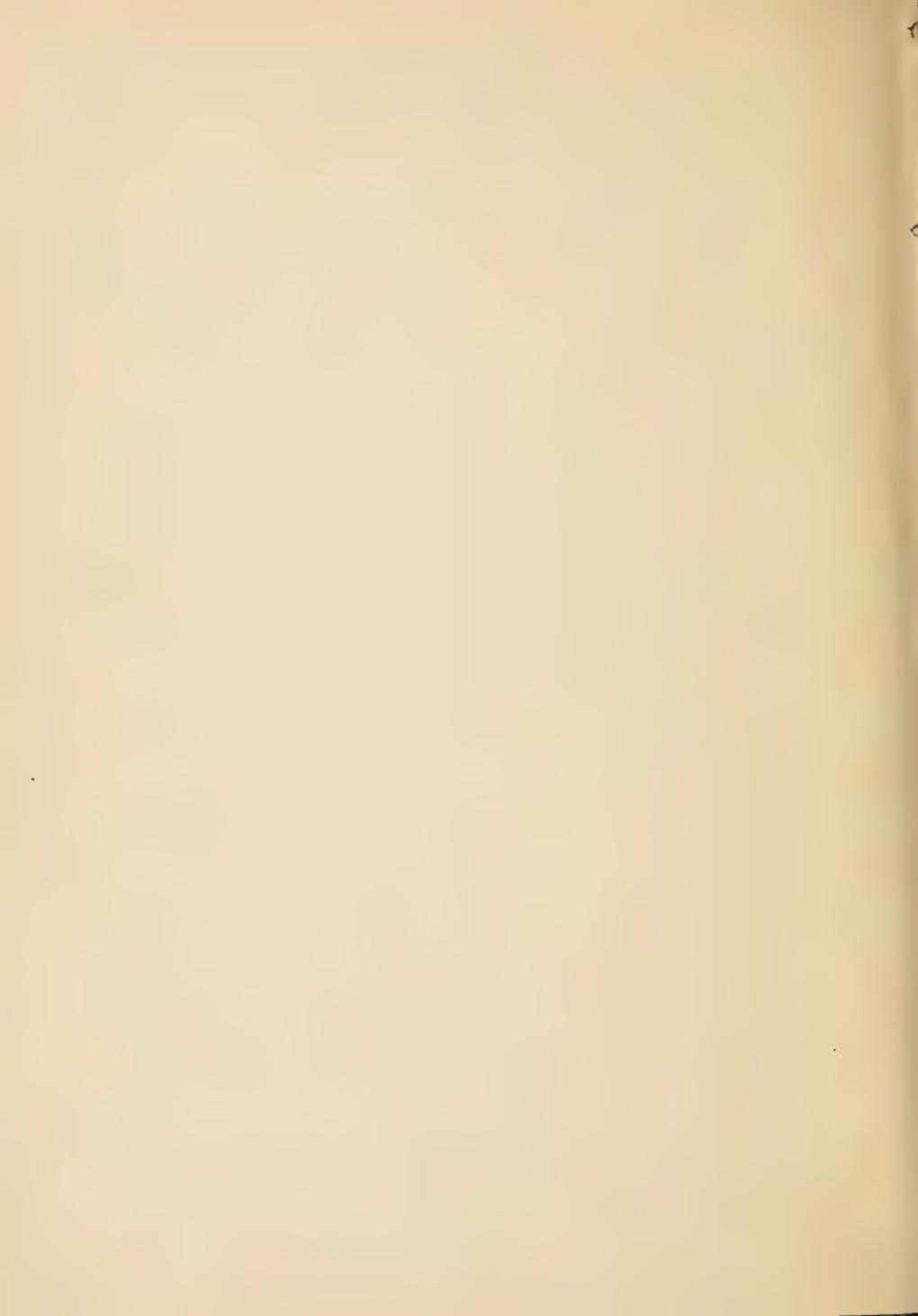
untimely, improper; I. i. 28.

vail, let fall; II. iii. 42: bow, do homage to; IV. Chor. 29.  
 vails, tips, fees; II. i. 157.  
 vegetives, plants; III. ii. 36.  
 virtue, capacity; II. i. 150.

wanion, see *with a wanion*.  
 well-a-near, alas; III. Chor. 51.  
 where, whereas; I. i. 127.  
 whereas, where; I. iv. 70.  
 whirring, sweeping away; IV. i. 20.  
 with a wanion, with a vengeance; II. i. 17.

yielded, born; V. iii. 48.  
 y-ravished, ravished, delighted; III. Chor. 35.  
 y-slaked, laid to rest; III. Chor. 1.

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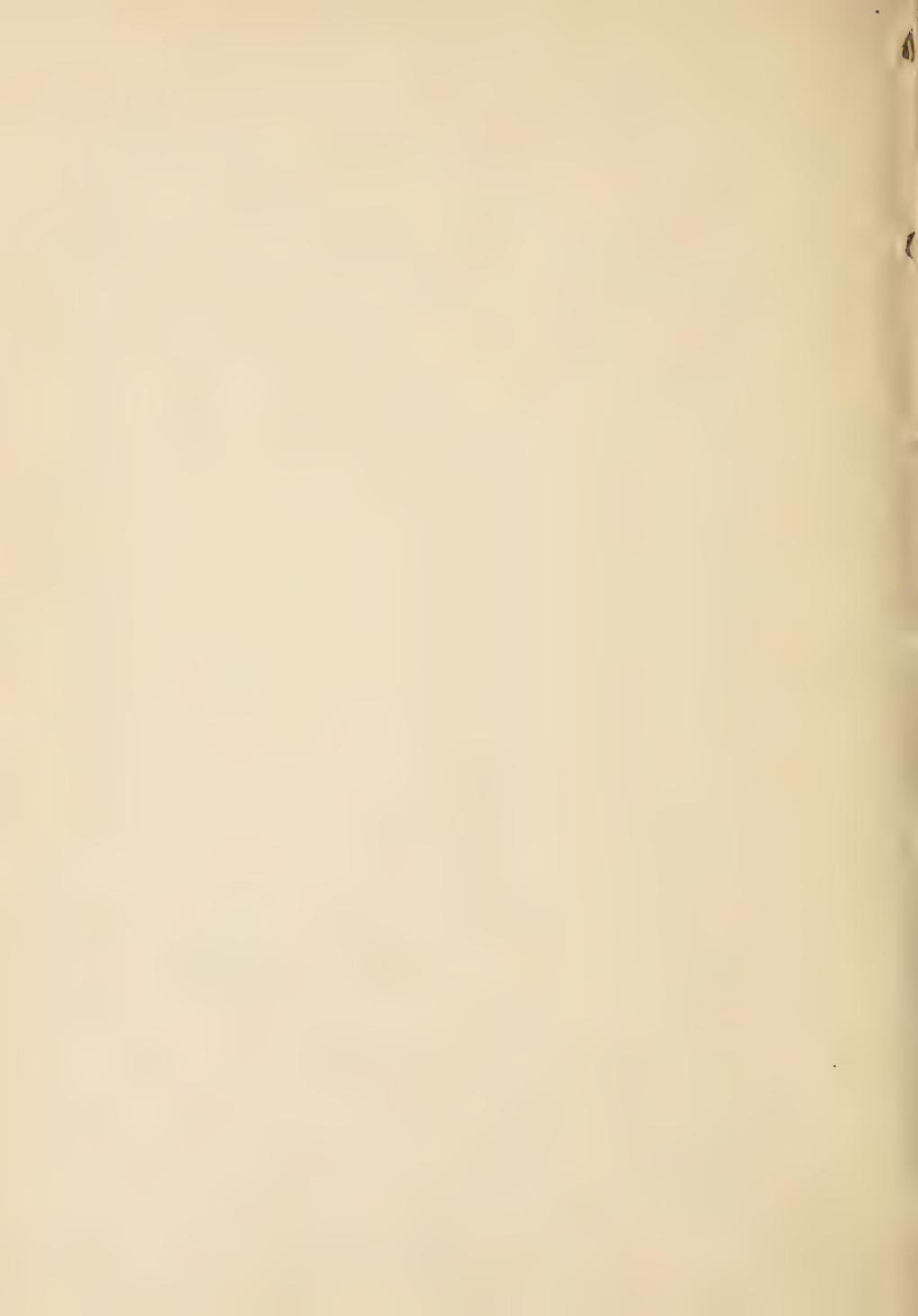
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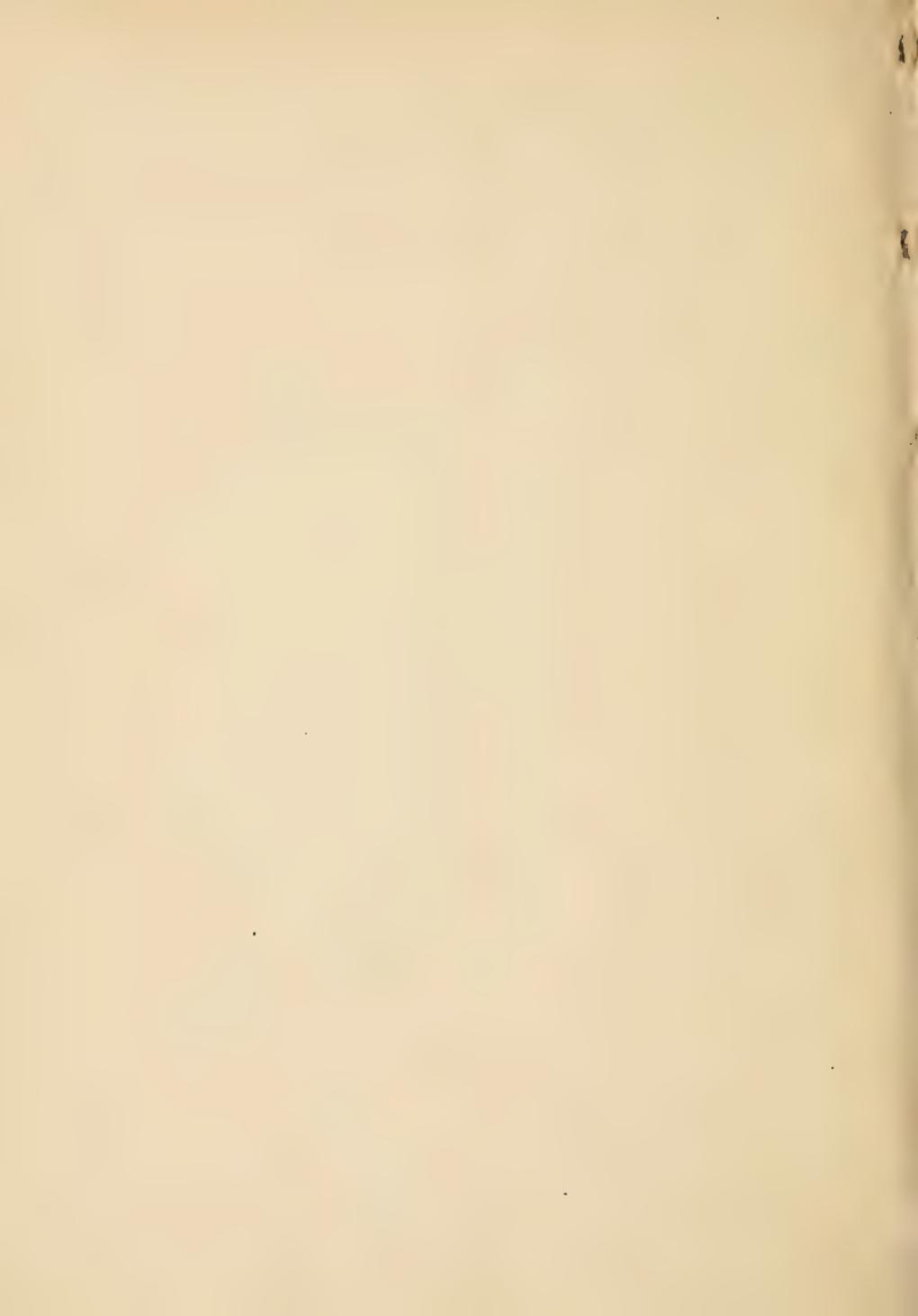
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